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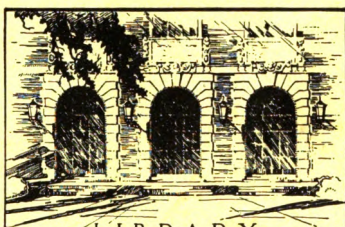
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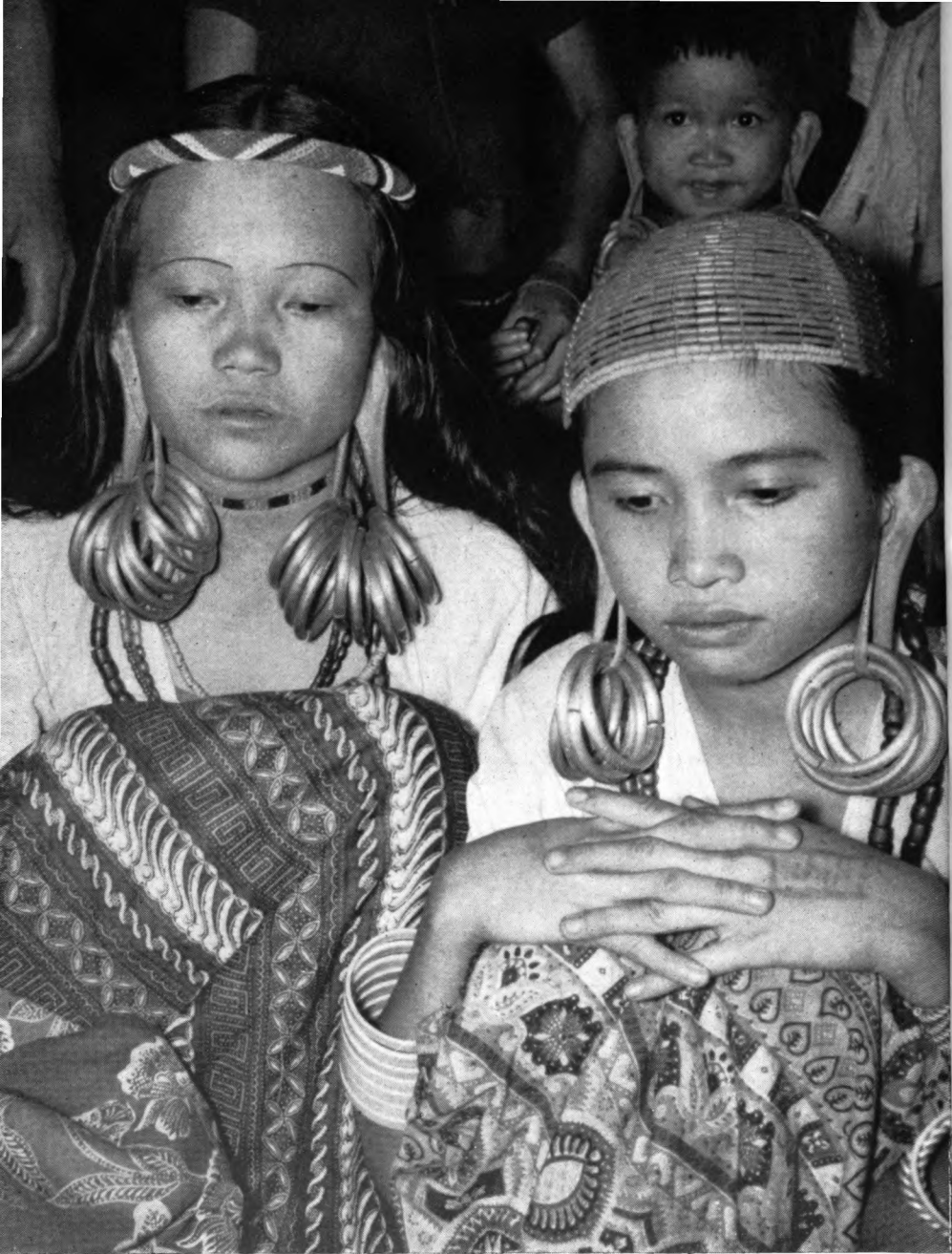
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(I. A. N. Urquhart)

Kelabit girls at Pa Tik, a village on the Ngelah River, a tributary of the Kuba'an, itself a tributary of the Ulu Tutoh, in the far interior of the Fourth Division. The girl on the right of the picture is wearing a traditional Kelabit head-dress made of old and valued beads handed down from one generation to another

**SARAWAK**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

**1957**

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Published in Great Britain by  
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE  
London: 1958

PRICE 13s. 6d. NET

*(Printed in Sarawak)*

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This Report  
is included in the series of Colonial Reports  
published for the Colonial Office.

S.O. Code No. 58-1-33-57\*

(73546)

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED IN KUCHING AT THE  
SARAWAK GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
F. W. GOODWIN, O.B.E., GOVERNMENT PRINTER

319.11  
G798 ann  
1957

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General 30558 Allen 1957 ser.

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# **PART I**



# I

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## A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**I**N the General Review of 1956 published a year ago pride of place was given to the grant of a new Constitution for Sarawak. In March, 1957, this Constitution came into force and the first meeting of the new Council Negri was held on May 21st. The machinery for electing Members worked smoothly and produced a well-balanced Council in which the principal interests of the people were all adequately represented; Council Negri met three times during the year, and the new Supreme Council elected at the first meeting of the Legislature sat eight times.

Constitutional development was not confined to these changes in the legislative and executive structure; there was important progress also in the field of local government. The whole of the First Division came under local government administration by legislation effective on January 1st. Progress in the First Division, although a little uneven, has been steady and satisfactory and the authorities are slowly assuming a greater variety of responsibilities. In the Kuching Municipality the visible signs of local government achievements include new municipal housing, a new fire station and new bus stations. One rural authority is operating an electricity supply, and a number of authorities are building minor roads and cycle paths. The Sibuan Urban District Council made successful progress with a slum clearance and low cost housing scheme, while a number of authorities realising the necessity for local self-help in such matters have introduced an education cess. Sarawak watched the constitutional development of her neighbours with interest and gratefully accepted the invitation of Malaya to be represented at her independence celebrations in August.

The year 1957 showed a continuation of the financial and economic trends evinced in 1956, that is, a gradual fall in the price of most export products, a consequent slackening in the tempo of external trade and a reduction in the rate at which

revenue accrued to Government. Government expenditure on the other hand continued to rise during the year, and it was found necessary to introduce certain new taxation in the Budget Session in December.

There was, during the year, a great increase in Government expenditure on education under the Grant Code arrangements and other changes in the education system introduced in 1957. School attendances during the year increased by no less than 10,000; there were clear indications that this rate of increase was likely to be maintained for some years. Current expenditure in the running of schools came to the formidable total of \$9,000,000; Government's contribution to this was \$7,000,000 during the year. Principles governing the Government building grants-in-aid scheme were modified during the year to provide for Government contributions at more than fifty per cent where the local communities were too poor to raise a matching fifty per cent contribution. Particular attention was paid during the year to the design of new schools and to a more careful selection of school sites. Steps were also taken to increase teacher training facilities; the Batu Lintang Centre was expanded and a new teacher training school for Chinese, accommodating fifty teachers a year, started in Sibü. Valuable outside assistance was received for these projects; Australia and Canada provided staff under the Colombo Plan for Batu Lintang, and the United States Government a lady teacher for the Sibü training school. It was noticeable during 1957 that the improvements in conditions of service of teachers have made the profession more attractive *vis-à-vis* other occupations.

The greatest expansion was in the primary school system—seventy new schools being registered in 1957 while the enrolment in existing schools increased; there was not a comparable increase in secondary education, but plans for expansion here made progress during the year and the building of two new Government secondary schools at Miri and at the 24th Mile on the Serian Road proceeded.

A very important development in education during the year was the acceptance of a principle which should ensure that every seat in every school in the country is ultimately occupied by a pupil deriving the maximum benefit from his education.

Many places in the schools are still occupied by boys and girls who by reason of age or incapacity cannot derive, or pass on to the community, any benefit from their education and whose presence in the schools is an obstacle to the education of other children to whom it would be of greater value. It was decided during the year to apply a system of selection to all future secondary school entries and it is hoped that the system to be introduced in 1958, experimentally in the first place, will provide an answer to this problem. Mention has been made above of the assistance given under the Colombo Plan and by the United States to Sarawak's education system; valuable financial assistance was received from the Sarawak Oilfields who awarded bursaries to students in secondary school, and children living in remote areas. Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, former High Commissioner for South-East Asia, gave the proceeds of his book, *Borneo People*, to establish a trust fund for scholarships to local children. As far as higher education was concerned, Sarawak continued to rely on the institutions of other Governments. During the year Government continued its policy to help its students with higher education by the granting of scholarships, and there were at the end of the year no fewer than ninety-eight students pursuing their higher professional and technical studies outside Sarawak.

One development during the year which is closely linked to the programme of overseas training was the establishment, by resolution of the Council Negri at its first meeting of the year, of a committee to examine the problem of replacing expatriate officers by locally recruited officers; the committee met several times during 1957 and the results of its review of this problem, which must necessarily take a considerable time, should be available in 1958.

The Medical Department continued the progress made in previous years in the elimination of malaria; during the year anti-malarial teams were at some time or other at work in all five Divisions of the country and it is estimated that by the end of the year 120,000 people who were formerly regularly afflicted with this disease had been freed of it, and it could be said that there were no longer any highly malarial areas remaining in Sarawak. Similar progress was recorded in the campaign against yaws.



The programme for improvements at the Charles Brooke Memorial Settlement for the treatment of leprosy was completed by the end of 1957; it became clear during the year that this disease was coming under control and that there are good prospects of its complete elimination from the territory within the next twenty years.

The most serious disease continued to be tuberculosis; the Medical Department had during the year the advantage of a visit by Sir Harry Wunderly, consultant on tuberculosis to the Australian Government. The Anti-Tuberculosis Association of Sarawak Convalescent Home on the Serian Road, which will accommodate thirty-six patients, was completed; a scheme was also introduced to provide for the examination and treatment, with financial assistance during treatment, of aided school teachers. Maternity and Child Welfare sections of the Department were particularly active and the training courses for rural midwives, introduced two years ago, continued to be very successful; there were at the end of the year eighty-three midwives in training.

In an attempt to improve dental services in the territory, legislation was introduced to legitimise practice by persons not fully qualified, until such time as the territory possesses sufficient fully qualified dental practitioners. On the public health side, some work was done during the year to provide clear water supplies for isolated villages. The Department's work was, however, heavily handicapped by delays in the recruitment of medical officers; the position improved somewhat towards the end of the year.

The revision of the terms of the Rubber Planting Scheme, perhaps the most important agricultural development during 1957, gave new and powerful impetus to this important project. The latest figures available, those for September, indicated that 6,000 acres had been successfully planted, whilst applications to plant or re-plant a further 17,000 acres had been approved. Supplies of planting material were satisfactory, the nurseries established and controlled by Government producing over 800,000 clonal seedling stocks to supplement imported material during the year. The year 1957 was not a prosperous one for pepper or sago farmers; for reasons entirely outside Government's control the

price of both commodities remained at a very low level; research into pepper disease continued during the year and investigations into the processing of sago and marketing of pepper were put in hand.

The veterinary section, established in new headquarters, continued its campaign against ranikhet disease in poultry.

The Forestry Department continued its work on the constitution of the territory's permanent forestry estate, a further 238 square miles being brought under preliminary negotiation. Thirty-nine square miles of small communal forests were also gazetted. As regards markets, the most valuable timber export—ramin—steadied and settled during the year and provided a good return to extractors and millers; exports for the year were approximately 243,000 round tons equivalent of ramin and 56,000 round tons equivalent of other timbers. The export controls of ramin introduced in 1956 remained in force and it has become abundantly clear that Government authority in introducing these controls, despite the opposition from the buying market, has been a great benefit to the trade and the country generally.

The Land and Survey Department made progress during the year on a number of individual settlement claims, and special reference must be made to its work in the Bintulu, Binatang and Sarikei areas where much land is being made available for settlement in accordance with a policy of alienating land superfluous to the needs of the holders of customary rights to provide for others genuinely short of land. A land use map on a scale of 1:250,000 covering the whole of Sarawak, and containing a great body of information essential to successful development planning was completed.

The Geological Survey made good progress and a further 19,340 square miles were described by detailed memoirs and geological maps. Particular surveys of interest were of a canal from the Baram to the Belait River to facilitate transport of stone to Brunei and of the possibility of starting a cement industry using the limestone deposits available in the Baram districts.

In April the Public Works Department undertook the biggest project ever undertaken in this country by direct labour, or indeed by any other means—the construction of the trunk road from Serian to Simanggang. Progress during the rest of the year was excellent and formation work reached a point twelve miles from Serian. Considerable progress was also made with the Sarikei-Binatang road. The quarry at Sebuyau was developed and a new quarry and commercial jetty were almost completed. Airfield construction included the completion of work at Simanggang, and the beginning of construction at Mukah; much building work was undertaken including the extension and reconstruction of Radio Sarawak, housing at Kuching and work on the secondary schools already referred to. Work continued on the reclamation and surfacing of port areas in Sibu and with the plans for the new Kuching port; the first phase of construction should be completed by 1960.

The Water Department staff was augmented, existing supplies at Sibu and Kuching improved and small installations at a number of other places including Simanggang, Lawas, Lundu and Santubong were completed.

Progress with telecommunications continued; at the end of the year the telephone link from North to South was still incomplete, but services within the two separate areas, the First, Second and Third Divisions on the one hand and the Fourth and Fifth Divisions on the other, operated with a high degree of efficiency. Seven new stations and five new marine radio stations were opened.

Council Negri dealt with a legislative programme, and the Legal Department was engaged in a large body of preliminary work necessary before the revised edition of the laws of Sarawak can be published. The year's legislation is set out in detail later in this Report.

The efficiency of the Police Force has steadily improved and it was found possible for the first time to confine recruitment to literate applicants; the policy of training local officers for higher posts continued; two very successful campaigns were held for the ex-Sarawak Rangers who are now members of the Field Force Reserve. The Sarawak Rangers reduced in strength from 325 to 225; they continued to serve with distinction in Malaya.

The Information Department embarked on a new publication, a Malay version of *Sarawak by the Week*, and the circulation of other already existing publications increased considerably. Progress has been made with a project initiated in 1956, the production of an up-to-date and authoritative history of Sarawak by the Hon. Sir Steven Runciman.

Broadcasting House has continued to give good service in four languages in spite of the great difficulties created by extensive reconstruction and new construction of its buildings.

The Museum made archaeological discoveries of the greatest interest and importance at the Niah Caves. An expedition mounted by the Museum Staff with the assistance of Dr. Tweedie of the Raffles Museum in Singapore disclosed the presence in the great cave at Niah of evidence of five distinct stone ages overlaid at the sub-surface by a Bronze age. Government is indebted to the Brunei Shell Petroleum Company for financial assistance which made this work possible; its results have attracted worldwide interest, and a grant for a further research from the Gulbenkian Foundation.

An event of the greatest importance to local aviation was the new agreement negotiated by the Borneo Governments with the Malayan Airways, and the first steps of the constitution of a local Borneo Airways.

The Territory lost during 1957 more than one valued servant; particular reference must be made to the sudden illness and death of Mr. George Strickland, Q.C., who had been Attorney-General and a Member of Council for five years, and to the deaths of two other Members of Council Negri, Datu Hakim and Datu Abang Ahmat.

Honours awarded during the year included that of Knight Bachelor conferred on the Chief Justice, Mr. E. H. Williams, and Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George conferred on Mr. J. C. H. Barcroft, Financial Secretary.

Sarawak had the pleasure and privilege of welcoming a number of distinguished guests during the year. The most important visit was that of Lord Perth, Minister of State for

Colonial Affairs, and Lady Perth in September. Lord Perth, during a visit of six days, saw Kuching, Sibul, Bintulu and Miri, and met a number of leading citizens of each of these places.

The Governor of Sarawak, Sir Anthony Abell, K.C.M.G., went on leave at the end of September. During his absence the Territory was administered by the Honourable Mr. J. H. Ellis, C.M.G.

#### DEVELOPMENT

A new Development Board consisting of members of Council Negri was appointed in place of the old Board appointed in 1951. The new Board had its first meeting in July during which a review of the current Development Plan for the period 1955-1960 was undertaken. The original plan was approved in 1954. Since then, considerable changes have been made and it has become necessary to review the plan and the means of financing it. As a result of this review, a revised plan for the period 1955-1960 was submitted and approved by Council Negri in August. Under the revised plan, it is estimated that \$105 million will be spent on development between 1957 and 1960. Of this total sum communications schemes account for about \$42 million or 40 per cent of the development programme.

Progress achieved in development work is touched on in several paragraphs in this chapter and in subsequent chapters of this Report. A separate Report on Development is also published annually by the Development Board.

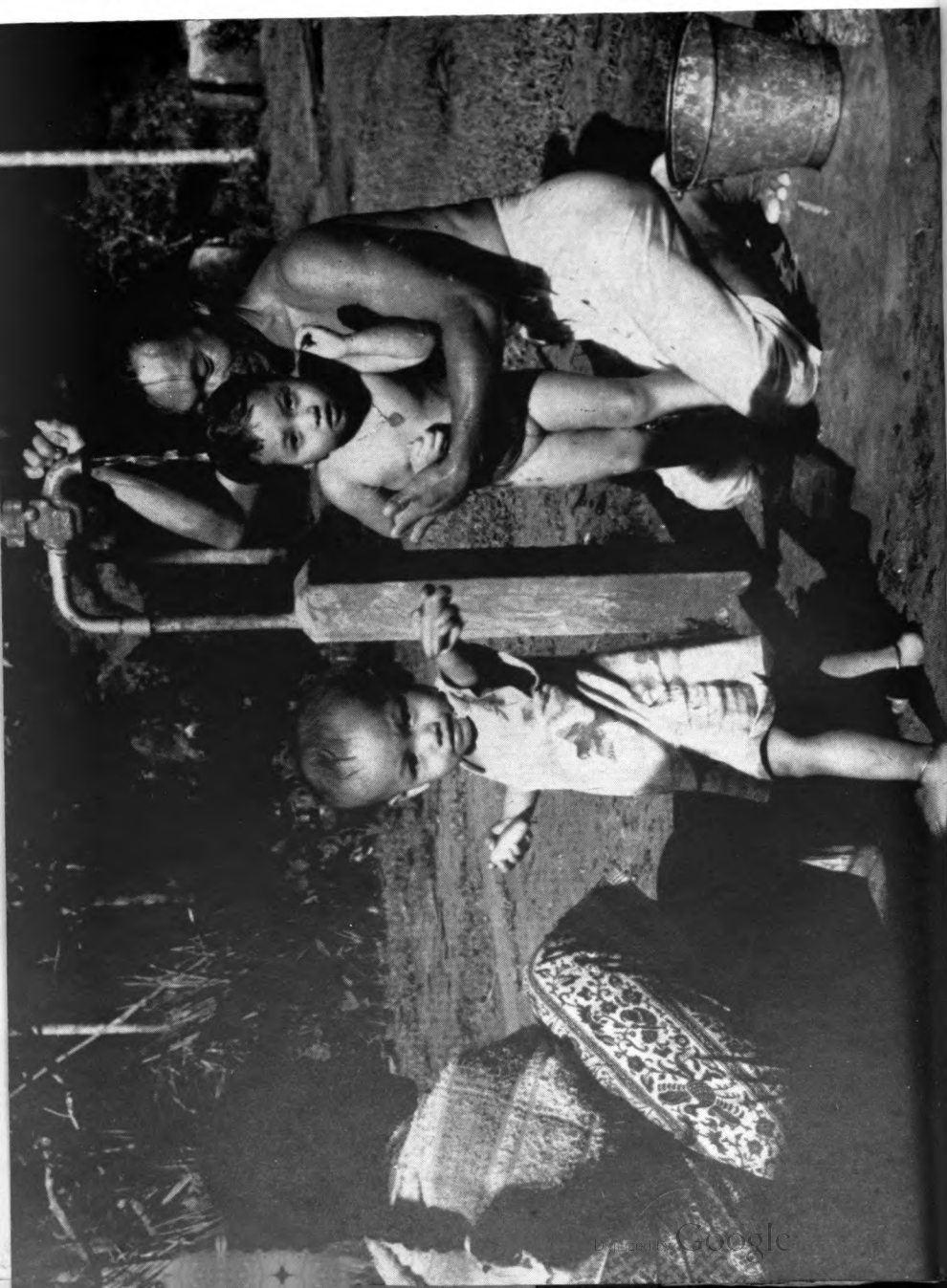
Expenditure under the Development Plan is given in detail in an Appendix to this Report and may be summarised as follows:—

	<i>Colonial Development and Welfare Funds</i>	<i>Sarawak Funds</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$	\$	\$
Actual Expenditure to end of 1956	10,998,943	74,972,844	85,971,787
Actual Expenditure in 1957	3,426,092	19,738,367	23,164,459
Estimated Expenditure in 1958	4,572,926	31,714,599	36,287,525

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Perth, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs visiting the Sarawak Library in Kuching, in September 1957. On the left of the picture is Mr. R. P. H. Davies, British Council Representative, and on Lord Perth's left, Mr. Lucien de Silva, Sarawak Librarian. On the table, book boxes which are packed and sent by the Library to Outstations all over the country



Enjoying the  
newly - installed  
piped-water supply  
at Santubong, at  
the mouth of the  
Sarawak River.  
First Division





## PART II



# I

## POPULATION

THE main native groups in Sarawak are Sea Dayak (or Iban), Malay, Melanau, Land Dayak, and a number of smaller groups comprising Kayans, Kenyahs, Bisayahs, Kedayans, Kelabits, Muruts, and others. The non-native races include Europeans, Chinese, Indians and Javanese.

The following table shows the number of each group in the 1947 Census, the latest to be taken :

<i>Cultural group</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Percentage of total population</i>
Sea Dayak	190,326	34.8
Chinese	145,158	26.6
Malay	97,469	17.9
Land Dayak	42,195	7.7
Melanau	35,560	6.5
Other Indigenous	29,867	5.5
Other Non-Indigenous Asian	5,119	1.0
European	691	0.1
	<u>546,385</u>	<u>100.0</u>

The natives of Sarawak form 72.4 per cent of the population. The Sea Dayaks are the largest and probably the most homogeneous group. Very strong local variations appear in the Sea Dayak language, but it is distinctive and well-recognised as a native language of Sarawak.

The Land Dayaks are mainly in the First Division. The legendary home of these people is believed by many of them to be Gunong Sungkong in West Borneo, and a close relationship exists with people of the same culture in nearby villages in West Borneo. This kinship leads to some movement across the border.

The Malays are of mixed stock and probably the most recent arrivals of all the indigenous peoples. They are bound by the common tie of Islam and have been powerful along the coast for centuries. Their domination has been intermittent and at times must have been almost non-existent, but it was sufficiently effective to leave an impression upon the pagan tribes of the seaboard.

Numerically the Chinese are the second most important group; economically they take first place and culturally their influence is very strong. There is substantial evidence that Chinese have lived in parts of Sarawak for many hundreds of years.

The Melanaus are found in the coastal areas of the Third and Fourth Divisions, and are the principal cultivators of sago. They are intermediate between the Malays and the pagan groups, in that some of them retain their pagan customs and habits, while others have become Muslims.

The Kayans and Kenyahs live on the Baram River and the headwaters of the Rejang and Balui. They are thought to have come from the Batang Kayan across the Indonesian border.

Other indigenous races are the Muruts, Bisayahs, Kelabits, nomadic Penans, Kedayans, and Dusuns from North Borneo.

The estimated populations at the 31st December 1956 was made up as follows:—

Sea Dayak	197,945
Chinese	189,826
Malay and Melanau	155,419
Land Dayak	49,175
Other Indigenous	30,541
Other Non-Indigenous	8,525
(including 2,106 Europeans)	
	<hr/>
	631,431
	<hr/>

These figures are based on the 1947 Census together with the births and deaths registered since then and the volume of migration to and from the country.

Migration to and from Sarawak during 1957 was as follows:—

	<i>Immigrants</i>	<i>Emigrants</i>
Chinese	7,351	7,019
European	2,551	2,359
Malay	1,134	879
Melanau	19	4
Sea Dayak	608	269
Land Dayak	7	1
Other Indigenous	43	11
Other Asian	884	872
	<hr/> 12,597 <hr/>	<hr/> 11,414 <hr/>

## II

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### OCCUPATION, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANISATION

**F**ARMING is the occupation of most of the people of Sarawak. They are nearly all padi farmers but rubber and sago, too, are grown, and from the jungle rattan, jelutong and damar (resin) are collected. Chinese farmers rely on rubber and pepper. In 1957 the average price for rubber was satisfactory and the increased activity of the previous two years was maintained. The world price for pepper was low and this, and disease, caused a decrease of some 25 per cent in production.

There was a general improvement in the timber trade. Prices were not high, but the demand increased and the redundancy of labour in 1956 was overcome.

Many workers, skilled and unskilled, continued to be engaged in building, both private and under the Government Development Plan, in dockwork, and in the distribution of imported goods.

Limited permits for skilled workers were given, as in the past, for the completion of specified tasks and to cover the training of local workers. There was little or no unemployment. Continued activity in rubber and the increased production of timber offset to some extent the decrease in pepper production and the depressed sago market.

Sarawak Oilfields Limited continued to be the largest employers of labour. In the field and the refinery at Lutong they have a senior staff of fifty-four, a regional staff of 312, and 852 skilled and 698 unskilled workers including Chinese, Malays, Dayaks and Indians.

Rates of pay of the oil company's workers ranged from a minimum of \$4.22 per day for unskilled workers to \$11.00 for the highest skilled artisans. The temporary cost of living allowance of 10 per cent for bachelors and 15 per cent for

married workers remains in force, and so do the outstation allowances where living accommodation, amenities, etc., are below standard; driving allowances; and allowances for work of an exceptionally dirty nature. Weekly hours of work continue to be  $43\frac{1}{2}$  and overtime pay  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the ordinary rate. Two weeks' annual leave with pay was given and, for sickness, full pay for the first two weeks and half pay for the next ten weeks.

The company's labour housing scheme is nearly completed, and the amenities, working conditions, and training schemes continued on the admirable lines described in earlier editions of this report.

Some Government departments have training schemes. The Agricultural Department has a training scheme for fifteen men in preparation. The Public Works Department has eighty-seven men in training and the Brooke Dockyard twenty apprentices working on the repair and overhaul of marine diesel engines and ships' auxiliary machinery.

The Labour Ordinance provides for an eight-hour day and a six-day week in Sarawak generally.

Wage levels were maintained. There was an increase of one and half points in the price index. The steadiness of this price index can be seen by comparison with the figures for earlier years. Against the basic figure of 100 for August, 1950, the figures for 1955, 1956, and 1957 were 122, 119.58 and 121.19.

The daily earnings of a rubber tapper ranged from \$2.40 to \$7.00, with an average of \$3.24 per day: there are in addition perquisites in the form of free housing and other amenities. Carpenters earn \$8.00 a day. The rate in the sawmills varies from a minimum of \$3.00 to \$12.30 per day with an average of \$5.61. Road and building construction workers range from \$4.00 to \$13.50 with an average of \$6.00 and wharf labourers from \$4.00 to \$9.50 with an average of \$7.34 per day.

One officer doubles the duties of Commissioner of Labour for Sarawak and Brunei and is stationed in the oilfields at Kuala Belait. District Officers are Deputy Commissioners of Labour and responsible for enforcing labour legislation and the inspection of



industrial undertakings in their areas. The Labour Ordinance, embodying the principles of the International Labour Conventions protects workers in hours of work, health conditions, the age of admission to employment, medical treatment, provision of written contracts of employment, notice pay, and conditions of extra-territorial recruitment.

Three trade unions were registered in 1957 bringing the total to thirty-two. Otherwise the position of the Unions is unchanged from earlier years. The Registrar of Trade Unions continued to maintain close touch with the unions and advised them on trade union lines.

There was one trade dispute between 150 workers and their employer, a Singapore firm of building contractors, concerning the appointment of a foreman. The workers went on strike on 29th June and resumed work eleven days later, losing 1,452 working days. This was the first major strike since 1952. There was no other labour difficulty. As in past years, there was more work than workers.

# III

## PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION

### REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

**R**EVENUE and Expenditure for the years 1956 and 1957 were:

	Revenue	Expenditure	
	\$	\$	\$
Actual 1956	51,434,042	43,374,438	+ 8,059,604
Estimated 1957 (revised)	50,588,400	51,351,838	- 763,438

A total of \$15,500,000 was transferred to the Development Fund from Surplus Balances in 1957 and the general Revenue Balance as at 31st December, 1957 (estimated), was \$39,381,314.69.

### REVENUE

The main heads of Revenue are:

Ordinary Revenue	Revised Estimate 1957 \$	Actual 1956 \$
Customs	26,086,000	26,892,259
Licences, Taxes and Internal Revenue	3,557,300	3,420,310
Fees of Court or Office, etc.	816,300	1,235,500
Departmental Services	1,958,500	869,089
Reimbursements	1,136,000	1,207,347
Land	990,000	946,088
Forests	1,625,800	1,519,394
Posts and Telegraphs	1,353,000	1,013,282
Marine	234,000	267,637
Revenue from Government Property	1,301,100	1,246,924
Interest	3,125,000	3,961,600
Income Tax	7,500,000	7,248,294
Extraordinary Revenue		
Lands Sales	750,000	1,452,668
Loan Repayments	155,400	153,650
	<u>\$50,588,400</u>	<u>\$51,434,042</u>

## EXPENDITURE

Heads of Expenditure are :

<i>Head</i>	<i>Revised Estimate 1957 \$</i>	<i>Actual 1956 \$</i>
Governor	187,013	138,619
Rajah's Dependants	998,344	114,559
Administration	2,853,491	2,811,451
Agriculture	1,157,812	969,201
Audit	128,891	120,737
Boys' Home	42,835	37,318
Broadcasting	679,716	571,738
Civil Aviation and Meteorological Service	436,382	406,594
Community Development	62,098	100,770
Constabulary	4,056,643	3,718,952
Contribution to Development Fund	3,000,000	3,000,000
Co-operative Development	256,576	202,890
Defence and Internal Security	12,000	19,113
Education	7,662,195	5,748,864
Forests	515,988	453,001
Immigration and National Registration	72,212	64,381
Information Service	265,794	222,709
Judicial	364,134	341,001
Lands and Surveys	2,294,735	2,094,336
Land Transport	58,252	208,087
Legal	239,667	141,522
Legal Aid	501	—
Local Authorities	1,628,458	934,550
Marine	1,574,247	1,307,162
Medical	5,202,477	4,552,611
Miscellaneous Services	1,861,469	1,641,472
Municipality of Kuching	543,948	454,615
Museum	168,085	114,124
Pensions and Gratuities	2,172,138	1,876,067
Posts and Telegraphs	2,201,009	1,292,312
Printing	656,882	516,990
Prisons	312,065	304,987
Public Works Department	1,639,785	1,621,225
Public Works Recurrent	3,200,500	2,166,714
Public Works Non-Recurrent	2,229,756	2,811,771
Secretariat	760,806	631,987
Trade and Customs	1,304,826	1,183,188
Treasury	550,108	478,820
	<u>\$51,351,838</u>	<u>\$43,374,438</u>

**STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1957  
(ESTIMATED)**

<i>Previous Year</i>	<i>LIABILITIES</i>		
\$		\$	\$
	Deposits—		
161,706.44	Security Deposits	130,000.00	
1,681,339.93	Miscellaneous	1,900,000.00	2,030,000.00
(1,843,046.37)			
151,284.32	Trading Account—Food Control		
8,324,420.35	Special Funds		9,000,000.00
712,027.71	Current Accounts		550,000.00
124,789.89	Allotments		60,000.00
144,629.56	Drafts and Remittances		140,000.00
	Colonial Development and Welfare		
106.40	Over-issues		10,000.00
13,940,220.13	Development, Welfare and Recon- struction Fund		17,000,000.00
	Joint Consolidated Fund		1,200,000.00
	General Revenue Balance:—		
	Balance as at 1.1.57	56,501,752.69	
	Less Transfer to D.W. & R. Fund	15,500,000.00	
		41,001,752.69	
	Less Surplus and Deficit Account	763,438.00	
		40,238,314.69	
	Deduct Depreciation of Invest- ments	957,000.00	
		39,281,314.69	
	Add Profit on Sales of Investments	100,000.00	
56,501,752.69	Balance as at 31.12.57		39,381,314.69
81,742,277.42			69,371,314.69
	<i>ASSETS</i>		
1,896,044.17	Cash		1,510,000.00
115,851.69	Fixed Deposits with Chartered Bank, Kuching		150,000.00
213,112.50	Joint Consolidated Fund		
	General Investments:—		
62,563,882.54	Sterling Securities at middle Market Value	43,868,326.69	
262,988.00	262988 shares in the Sarawak Electricity Supply Co. Ltd.	262,988.00	44,131,314.69
	Investments on behalf of Special Funds:—		
6,666,666.44	Sterling Securities at middle Market Value	7,900,000.00	
1,000,236.53	Deposits with Joint Consolidated Fund	880,000.00	8,780,000.00
	Trading Account Food Control		600,000.00
8,252,178.02	Advances		12,800,000.00
204,890.76	Current Accounts		900,000.00
520,611.87	Remittances between Chests		500,000.00
20,400.61	Suspense (Turtle Trust)		—
25,414.29	Colonial Development & Welfare Grants over-refunded		—
81,742,277.42			69,371,314.69

### *Public Debt*

There is no public debt but at 31st December, 1957, a sum of \$10,360,354 had been charged to Advances in anticipation of loans to be raised. The principal part of this sum was spent in the development of electricity through the Sarawak Electricity Supply Company, Limited, a company wholly owned by the Government, and in the provision of low cost housing in Kuching and Miri.

### *Customs Tariff*

The Customs tariff is divided into two parts: import duties and export duties. During the year substantial amendments were made to the tariff. The export duty on sago was abandoned from 17th October in the hope of assisting the industry during a period of depression. The export duty on rubber was revised in November and the sliding scale adjusted so that a higher revenue is obtained when prices are above 82 cents a pound while a smaller levy than previously is made when prices are below that figure. In December, 1957, the table of import duties was substantially amended with a view to increasing revenue, spreading the burden of taxation over a wider range of commodities, and taxing the wealthier section of the community. The import duty on salt was abandoned while the duties on milk and sugar were reduced. Duties were imposed for the first time on a substantial number of luxury and semi-luxury goods while the duties on liquors, motor cars, petrol, radios, refrigerators, cameras, cosmetics, perfumery and other items were increased. Some specific duties were introduced while in other cases a minimum duty was imposed in support of the *ad valorem* charge.

### *Excise Duty*

Excise duty is levied on locally manufactured arrack, certain wines, matches and petroleum products. The excise duty on petroleum products was revised in December to bring it into line with the increased import duty on these products. The excise duty on liquors was not increased.

### *Timber Royalties*

In December the rates of royalty on timber were revised to approximately treble the previous rates for converted timber and double in the case of timber produced in the round. It was

decided that the revision should not take effect until 1st February, 1958, in order to give the timber trade time to adjust itself to the increases.

### *Stamp Duty*

Stamp duties are imposed on all documents required to be stamped under the provisions of the Stamp Ordinance. They include duty on cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes, agreements, contracts, affidavits, declarations of trust and instruments creating an annuity. In December the schedule of charges was revised, increasing the rates on certain types of document and covering a wider range of documents to be stamped, the principal innovation being a duty of ten cents on every customs declaration.

### *Income Tax*

Income Tax is charged, levied and collected under the Income Tax Ordinance, 1949, but at present only on the incomes of companies incorporated or registered under any law or charter in force in Sarawak or elsewhere. On each dollar of chargeable income for the year of assessment, tax is levied at thirty per cent.

### *Trade Licence Fees*

The Trade Licensing Ordinance, a corollary of the Income Tax Ordinance, extends direct taxation, in the form of trades licence fees, to certain businesses. Fees vary according to the nature and locality of the business and are at lower rates in rural areas. A new item was introduced during the year requiring the business of instruction in motor-vehicle driving to take out a licence. For import and export trade businesses there is a graduated scale, based on the value of imports or exports. Rates range from a basic fee of \$60 for imports not exceeding \$10,000 or exports not exceeding \$30,000 to one per cent for imports exceeding \$450,000 or exports exceeding \$950,000. When the income from a business is charged with income tax, no trade licence fees are payable, but where an import or export business is carried on by a company liable to income tax on behalf of another firm not so liable with intent to evade the payment of trade licence fees by that firm, then the firm is deemed to have carried on the business of importing or exporting itself and is liable to pay trade licence fees accordingly.

*Head and Door Tax*

Head tax at the rate of \$1 per adult male is paid by all Malays and some Dayaks. Most of the Dayak communities pay a "door" tax of \$1 per door, the "door" being the apartment in a Dayak longhouse occupied by a single family. These taxes are collected by the Local Authorities and the Government remits the bulk of the collection to the collecting agents.

*Entertainment Tax*

A tax is charged on all payments for admission to entertainments.

*Estate Duty*

Estate Duty is charged upon all estates above \$1,000. Rates are as follows:—

Where the value of the estate exceeds

\$ 1,000 but does not exceed \$					3,000	1	per cent
\$ 3,000	"	"	"	"	\$ 5,000	1½	" "
\$ 5,000	"	"	"	"	\$ 7,500	2½	" "
\$ 7,500	"	"	"	"	\$ 10,000	3½	" "
\$10,000	"	"	"	"	\$ 20,000	5	" "
\$20,000	"	"	"	"	\$ 40,000	7½	" "
\$40,000	"	"	"	"	\$ 70,000	10	" "
\$70,000	"	"	"	"	\$100,000	15	" "
Over \$100,000						20	" "

It was proposed at the Budget meeting of Council Negri in December that the rate for estates exceeding \$100,000 should be revised to twenty-one per cent increasing by steps of one per cent to a maximum of forty per cent for estates exceeding \$5,000,000. This proposal was adopted.

## IV

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### CURRENCY AND BANKING

#### *Currency*

**L**EGAL tender is of notes and coin issued by the Board of Commissioners of Currency, Malaya and British Borneo.

The value of the Malayan dollar is two shillings and four pence sterling.

On 31st December, 1957, there were \$45,410,956 of Malayan currency in circulation and \$750,223 of Sarawak currency, the latter made up of \$280,707 in notes and \$469,516 in coins. Malayan currency in circulation during the year decreased by \$4,830,000, after taking into account the "drift" of \$1,100,000 from Brunei. \$920 Sarawak currency in notes were withdrawn during the same period.

#### *Banking*

Banking is provided by the Chartered Bank with branches in Kuching, Sibul, Miri and Sarikei and by the Oversea Chinese Banking Corporation and four Chinese trading banks: Bian Chiang, Kwong Lee, Wah Tat, and Hock Hua.

#### *Post Office Savings Bank*

There were 7,959 depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank at the end of 1957 compared with 8,238 at the end of 1956. The sum to their credit was \$3,770,048 against \$4,206,206 in 1956.

Withdrawals, of \$1,750,246, exceeded deposits by \$523,193.



# V

## COMMERCE

**T**HE year 1957 was one of recession. Except for oil exports, which continued to increase, there was a general decline in major exports, and this was reflected in the decreased value of imports. Apart from oil, exports decreased by about \$7,700,000 and imports by about \$6,300,000. There were no material changes in the pattern of trade.

### *External Trade*

The total value of external trade (including oil) for 1957 was \$962,964,078, compared with \$950,887,495 in 1956. This was made up as follows:—

	1957	1956
Exports	\$499,534,619	\$487,000,860
Imports	463,429,459	463,886,635
Favourable Trade Balance	<u>\$ 36,105,160</u>	<u>\$ 23,114,225</u>

Disregarding the import of crude oil piped from Brunei, and the export of both crude oil and refined products, the trade position is as follows:—

Imports	\$143,858,961
Exports	<u>122,602,124</u>
Adverse Balance	<u>\$ 21,256,837</u>

### *Imports*

The declared value of imports for 1957 was about

\$463,429,459. These are the details:—

	1957	1956
Food	\$ 54,848,229	\$ 52,305,155
Beverages and Tobacco	9,592,713	10,890,770
Crude materials, inedible, except fuel	4,413,588	5,004,535
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	328,523,910	321,540,437
Animal and vegetable oils and fats	484,772	560,314
Chemicals	9,570,775	9,530,525
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by materials	22,175,003	24,625,911
Machinery and transport equipment	18,963,265	19,864,026
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	9,081,387	10,424,302
Miscellaneous transactions and commodities, n.e.s.	5,775,817	9,140,660
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$463,429,459</b>	<b>\$463,886,635</b>

	1957	1956
Crude oil imports	\$319,570,498	\$313,739,509

The cost of certain basic foodstuffs such as flour, sugar, salt and milk showed substantial increases whereas rice showed a further reduction compared with former years. The respective declared values were:—

	1957	1956
Rice	\$ 371.36 per ton	\$ 374.07 per ton
Flour	334.20 " "	319.29 " "
Sugar	510.28 " "	373.86 " "
Salt	68.39 " "	59.35 " "
Milk	1,385.20 " "	1,279.05 " "

### Exports

The f.o.b. value of exports for the year 1957 was about \$499,534,619 made up as follows:—

	1957	1956
Petroleum, crude and refined	\$376,932,495	\$356,704,393
Rubber	73,301,798	68,635,041
Pepper	17,231,981	24,610,131
Sago flour	2,088,559	2,422,702
Copra	—	156,540
Jelutong	1,106,967	1,560,825
Timber	19,558,560	19,064,435
Illipe-nuts	—	92,198
Sundries (including re-exports)	9,314,259	13,754,595
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$499,534,619</b>	<b>\$487,000,860</b>

*Rubber*

Exports of rubber amounted to 41,000 tons compared with 41,234 tons in 1956, and the price of rubber was maintained throughout the year.

*Pepper*

Production was much lower than in 1956. Exports in 1957 amounted to 13,740 tons compared with 19,818 tons for 1956. Production of black pepper was again predominant over white.

	1957	1956
White	2,298 tons	2,760 tons
Black	11,442 "	17,058 "

The general depression in market value towards the end of the year did not affect the trade in Sarawak to any marked degree, but if there is a continued downward trend planters may well turn their attention to other products rather than continue the battle against disease and the high cost of production.

*Sago Flour*

Exports of sago flour amounted to 12,780 tons compared with 12,576 tons in 1956.

*Copra*

Exports of copra during the year were almost nothing, compared with 476 tons in 1956. Part of the crop available for export was absorbed by a vegetable oil factory and exported in the form of oil. The market was rather depressed.

*Jelutong*

Exports of jelutong during 1957 amounted to 370 tons, against 591 tons in 1956.

*Timber*

Exports of timber were 201,617 tons compared with 197,089 tons for 1956.

*Cargo Tonnage*

The tonnage of cargo discharged and loaded for the year, including oil in bulk, was 5,855,648, compared with 5,956,094 for 1956, as follows (in tons):

	<i>Discharged</i>		<i>Loaded</i>	
	<i>Cargo</i>	<i>Oil in bulk</i>	<i>Cargo</i>	<i>Oil in bulk</i>
Kuching	85,554	13,639	48,452	—
Sibu	61,455	9,000	27,516	—
Sarikei	8,255	511	17,380	—
Binatang	5,864	15	3,445	—
Tanjong Mani	136	—	188,560	—
Miri	15,854	—	8,736	5,335,955
Bintulu	825	—	10,486	—
Limbang	2,096	—	5,616	—
Lawas	1,131	—	4,593	—
Sundar	296	—	278	—
	<hr/> 181,466	<hr/> 23,165	<hr/> 315,062	<hr/> 5,335,955

### *Customs Revenue*

The Customs revenue for 1957 was \$25,366,476. Here is a comparison with earlier years:

	1957	1956	1955	1940
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Export Duties	10,215,194	12,111,794	14,275,294	1,278,254
Import Duties	15,151,282	13,907,585	13,498,520	2,252,028
	<hr/> 25,366,476	<hr/> 26,019,379	<hr/> 27,773,814	<hr/> 3,530,282

### *Excise Revenue*

This was \$719,721 against \$869,459 in 1956. This was very disappointing. The reduction suggests an increase in illicit distilling, in spite of the Department's ever increasing success in the ceaseless war against this practice.

### *Tariff*

On 2nd December, 1957, a completely new and very comprehensive tariff of import duties was introduced. The general tendency was to increase the revenue from luxury goods without placing an additional burden on the poor man's purse. In some cases duties on necessities were decreased or removed altogether. This did not prevent an immediate rise in price of all commodities, even in those on which the duty had been decreased; but prices are now finding their proper level.

## VI

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### LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

THE new Land Code, published as a Bill in December, 1956, was approved by Council Negri in August, 1957, after examination by a Select Committee of Council Negri which made minor amendments. Land Rules were formulated and the necessary schedules and forms prepared.

#### *Organisation and Staff*

The Land and Survey Department is responsible for the alienation of Crown land and the issue of titles; the registration of all dispositions affecting land and all cadastral surveys whether for new alienations or for mutations of existing lots; the collection of land rents and licence fees, premia and other revenue from land or mineral rights; trigonometrical and topographical surveys and mapping; town and country planning with respect to Crown lands and for land valuations. In addition the administration of the Mining Ordinance is the responsibility of the Department in the absence of a Mines Department, and a new responsibility is the creation of a Drainage and Irrigation Section.

The Department consists of a Headquarters at Kuching and Divisional Offices at Kuching, Simanggang, Sibuluan and Miri.

Six Junior Service Officers underwent training overseas. Of these one visited the United Kingdom for courses in air mapping at the Directorate of Overseas Surveys and the Ordnance Survey; two attended the Kuala Lumpur Technical College; two have been attached to the Malayan Survey Department for training in cartography, and one officer is taking an Engineering Degree Course in Australia under the Colombo Plan.

#### *Policy and Land Utilisation*

The policy of the Rajah's Government to pay sympathetic regard to the customs of the people and their rights thereby established to Native Customary Land remains an essential

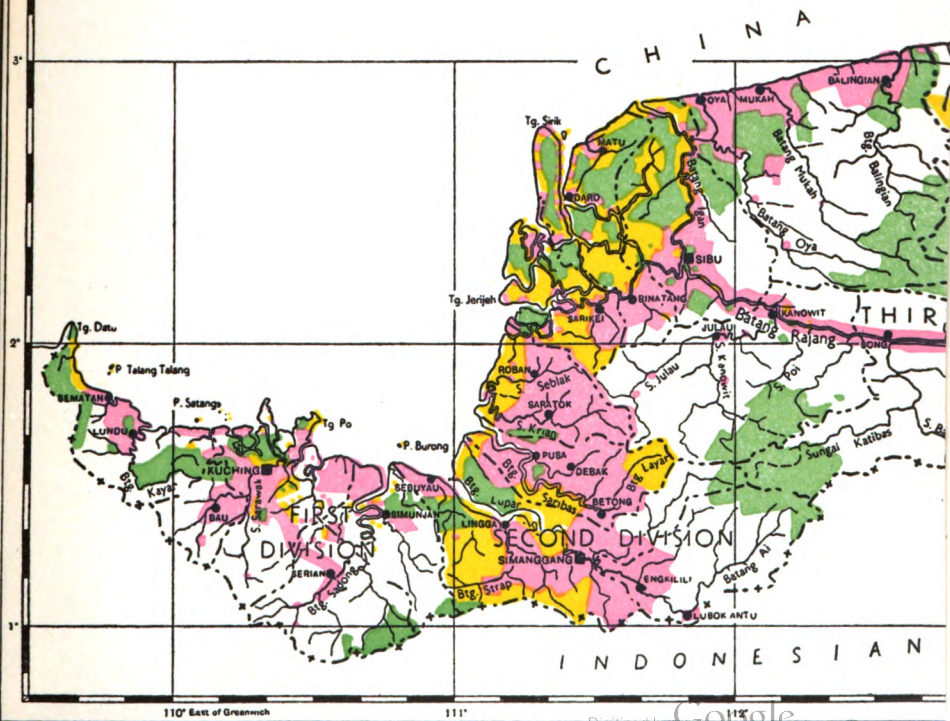
### Divisional Headquarters

### Mixed Zone Land

## Native Area Land

Forest Reserves, Protected Forests  
and Communal Forests .....

Interior Area Land  
and Native Customary Land ..... uncoloured

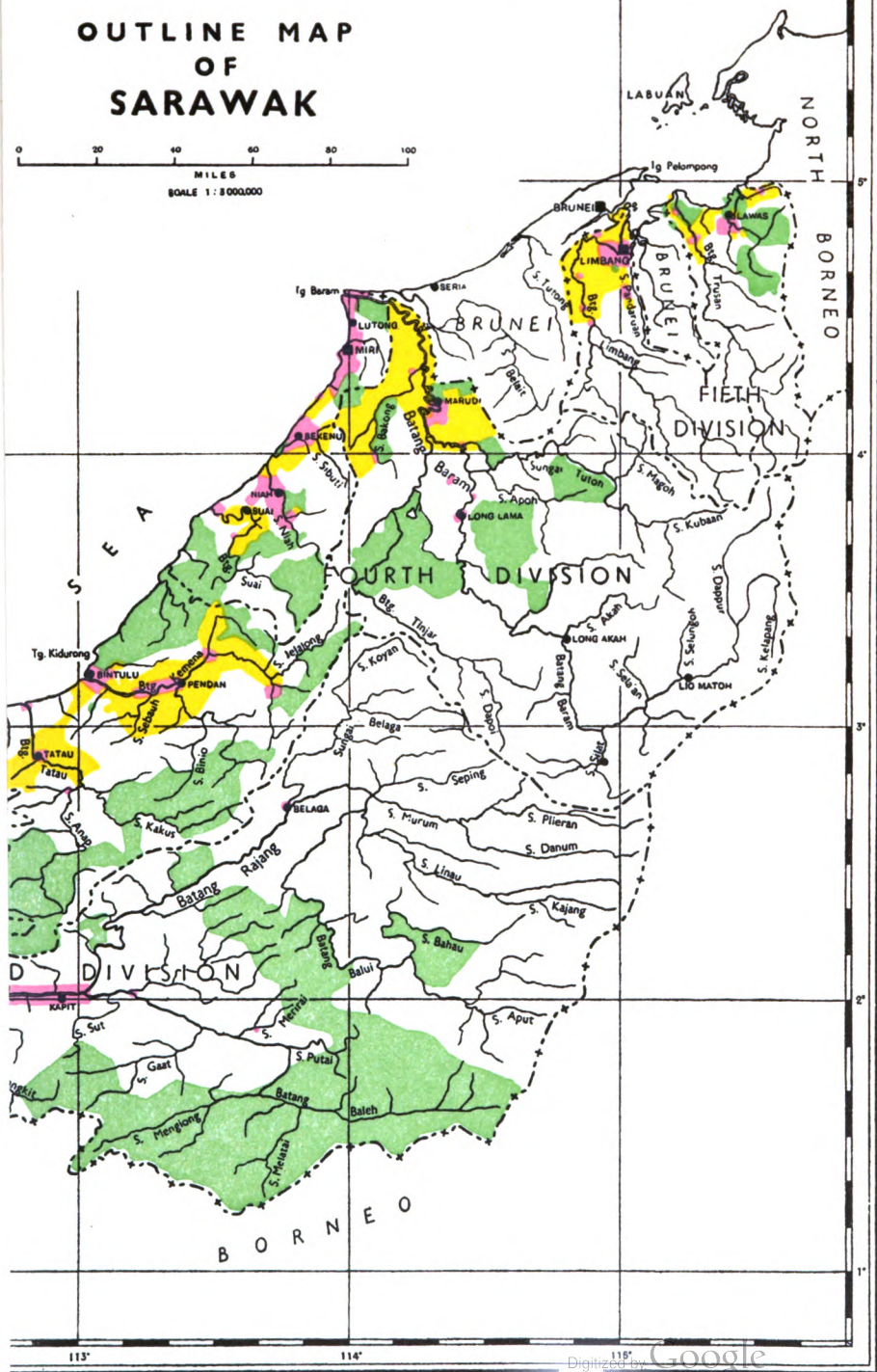


# OUTLINE MAP OF SARAWAK

0 20 40 60 80 100

MILES

SCALE 1 : 500,000





feature of a policy which aims at the alienation of Crown land for the best general economic benefit of the people, with due regard to the needs for planned development and the conservation of natural resources.

All communities practice shifting cultivation, and this is one of the main difficulties in determining and surveying the extent of Native Customary Lands, and their safeguard by the issue of titles. The practice also causes difficulties in the planned development of areas in which alienation of land to individuals is required.

It is hoped that as the planting of permanent crops and modern methods of agriculture take the place of shifting cultivation there will be a greater demand for individual titles on the part of the native peoples, and that customary tenure will eventually disappear. A slight tendency in this direction has been noted in some localities.

#### *Settlement of Rights*

No new areas were brought under the provisions of the Land Settlement Ordinance. The provisions of the Ordinance will be covered by the new Land Code and no Senior Officer could be spared to act as settlement officer.

Settlement surveys were continued in the Betong area of the Second Division.

#### *Agricultural Settlement*

Endeavours have been made to anticipate, where possible, the demands for land for permanent agricultural development. Anticipation of these demands enables suitable blocks of land to be selected, action taken to safeguard or extinguish Native Customary Rights, and to plan and subdivide available land for alienation to new settlers. The pressure for land is greatest near the main centres of the Chinese agricultural communities, because of the natural increase in population, the lack of training and opportunities for young men in spheres other than agriculture and the availability of capital for the opening up of new land. The greater willingness of younger Chinese to move further afield, and a reduction in the available capital because of the general fall in agricultural prices has reduced the pressure for land slightly in some localities. But the Government recognises



the continued urgency of making more land available for settlement and agricultural policy aims at increasing the production of cash crops, particularly rubber, pepper, coconut, sago and pigs.

Although a willingness to move further afield reduces the problem in the more closely settled areas the question of land re-distribution remains a complex one. Any land suitable for permanent agricultural settlement is already occupied at least in part under Native Customary Rights, and generally classified as Native Area Land. Simply to re-classify these lands as Mixed Zone Lands would merely aggravate the general shortage of native farming land by encouraging the sale of native rights to non-natives for attractive cash payments. There is no satisfactory alternative to a lengthy process of ascertaining the extent of lands held under Customary Rights, assessing the needs of the village or community concerned, extinguishing rights over excess land by payment of compensation or providing alternative land, safeguarding of lands left to the natives, and the planning, subdividing and alienating of the remainder.

In December air photographs were taken of some areas in the First and Second Divisions adjoining the route of the Serian-Simanggang Road which yielded most valuable information. In anticipation of this photography the boundaries of lands claimed by the inhabitants had been cleared and these could be plotted from the air photographs; many months of ground survey were saved.

In the First Division it is becoming evident that much of the land to be opened up by the new road to Simanggang is generally already held under customary tenure and is barely sufficient for the people already in occupation. In the Lundu district there appears to be a desire on the part of the Dayaks to abandon areas of hill padi in favour of swamp padi cultivation, and to plant rubber on the hills. After suitable planning it may be possible to effect a re-distribution and make rubber land available within the foreseeable future.

In the Second Division a padi enumeration survey revealed the existence of about 1,000 acres of good padi land in compact blocks of up to 300 acres not in regular use. Air photographs taken provided information which confirmed the findings of the

ground parties and proved the value of this method of obtaining information regarding land uses. The air photographs were taken during one morning's flying, compared with several weeks of work on the part of the ground parties.

Systematic inspections of vacant land were made with a view to establishing blocks of Crown land which could be developed to meet a growing public demand in the Division. During the year work was completed on three blocks. One was found too swampy for development in the foreseeable future; another is swampy but river clearing is bringing about a great improvement, and the third area appears to have definite possibilities of early development. In these surveys work was carried out in conjunction with surveys by the Department of Agriculture.

Cadastral surveys of individual boundaries in both the Roban and the Simanggang rubber blocks were continued and the Roban block was completed.

In the Third Division 12,600 acres are under investigation. Investigation surveys have been completed but the assessment of how much excess land is available for permanent settlement is proving very difficult. This area is situated in the Sarikei-Binatang area. In the Passai-Siong area perimeter surveys of lands claimed by the various longhouses have been completed, covering an area of 178 square miles, of which a plan has been completed together with information, obtained partly from air photographs, regarding cultivation and vegetation. This information is under examination and it is hoped that land will be made available for permanent settlement in the near future. Of the 24,110 acres previously made available for rubber planting, a further 1,930 acres were applied for during 1957, leaving a balance of 8,730 acres available.

In the Fourth and Fifth Divisions rubber blocks already under development were extended and several months were spent in the investigation of about 5,000 acres of potential land along the Lawas-Trusan Road. Extensive re-settlement of local peoples and some re-distribution of land will be necessary before this land can be made available for permanent settlement. Although the primary purpose of the investigation was to find land for Foochow settlers from the Third Division, there has been a local demand and the whole of the 5,000 acres may not be

available for newcomers. However, an additional 4,500 acres has been made available to the Foochoos, who will commence opening up the land during 1958. Three blocks of land for rubber, totalling about 2,400 acres, have been investigated near Miri and will be made available for settlement during 1958.

### *Land Utilisation*

The 1/250,000 land use map completed in 1956 was printed and copies were made available to the Internal Migration Committee. Bulk supplies were not received until May but it has been in steady demand since it became available for general distribution. A land use map at a scale of 1/1,500,000 was completed and bulk supplies received during the year.

### *Land Classification*

Land is classified as Mixed Zone, Native Area and Interior Area land. Mixed Zone land may be held without restriction because of the race or community of the holder. Native Area land may be held only by a member of one of the native races or by a person who has been absorbed into one of the native communities. Interior Area land is land to which title may not be held although, subject to a permit first being granted, Native Customary Rights may be established over specified areas. Occupation of Interior Area land is controlled by permit to prevent haphazard felling of jungle with its attendant destruction of timber and creation of conditions which create soil erosion. In addition to the areas which have been classified as Mixed Zone, Native Area or Interior Area lands, areas have been reserved as Forest Reserves, Protected Forests and Native Communal Forests. Small scattered areas have also been declared Government Reserves for various purposes.

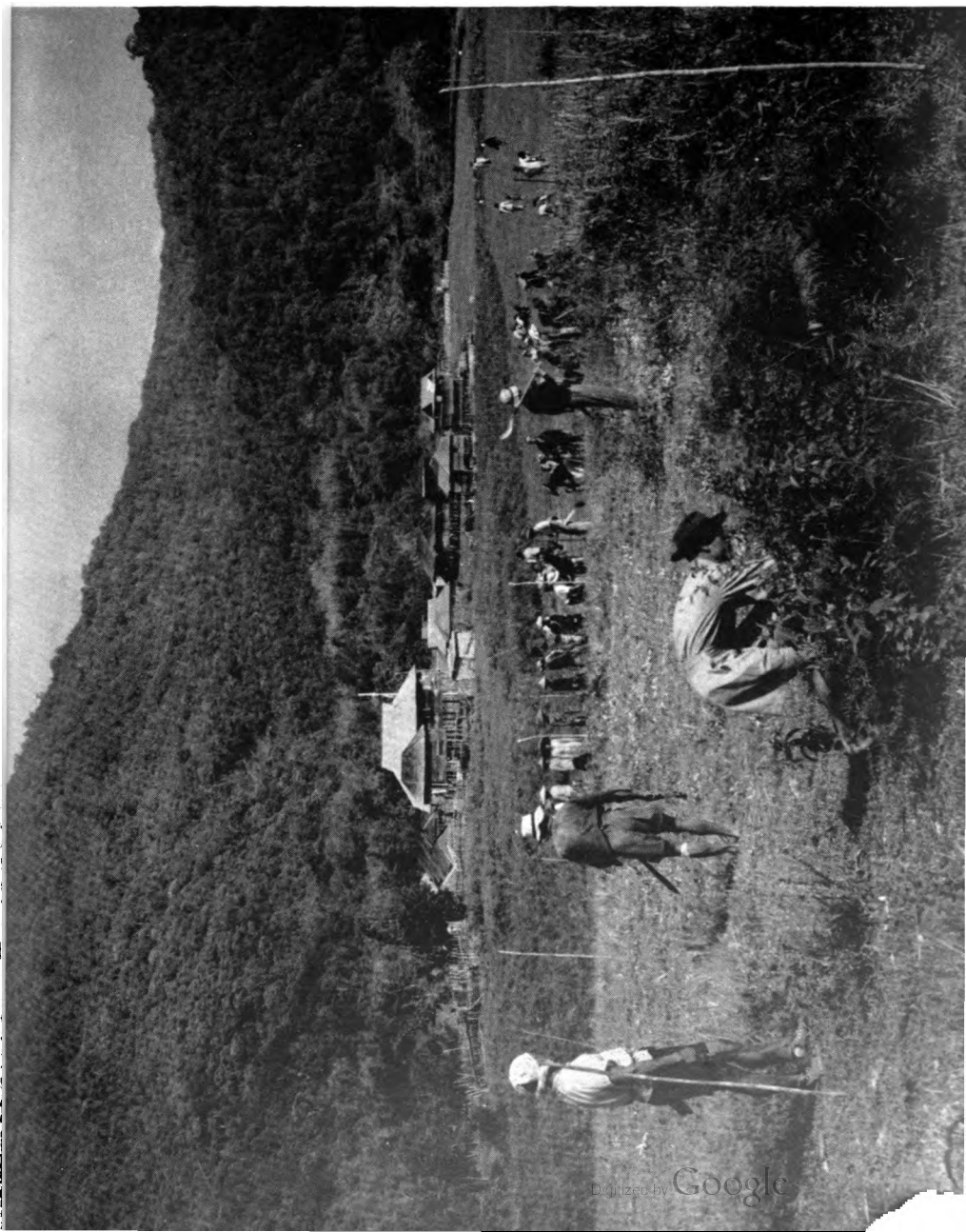
Outside the Fourth Division there were no major classifications of land during the year. The inset map facing page 28 shows the classification of land in categories.

### *Applications for Land*

A total of 6,614 applications for land were received during 1957 affecting 34,271 acres.

Muruts working on the airstrip at Ba Kelalan in the Fifth Division. This airstrip was originally built by the Borneo Evangelical Mission for the use of their Auster aircraft. The work now in progress is being done by the Sarawak Government to make the airstrip usable for a regular passenger service

(John Seal)





Work in progress on the new road from Serian, in the First Division, to Simanggang, the Divisional Headquarters of the Second Division. The length of this trunk road, which will open large areas of the interior, is between eighty and ninety miles, and the work estimated to take five years, is being carried out by the Public Works Department

(G.S.I.S.)



<i>Applications</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Purpose</i>
601	459	Building
3,323	20,065	Rubber
304	1,575	Coconut
105	229	Pepper
619	4,128	Sago
771	3,970	Padi
4	34	Coffee
225	770	Fruit
38	91	Vegetable
22	479	Cattle grazing
466	2,152	Other Agricultural
136	319	Miscellaneous
<hr/> 6,614	<hr/> 34,271	

6,507 applications were outstanding from 1956;  
 6,308 applications were received in 1957; and  
 6,557 were dealt with.

The greatest percentage increase is in the applications for building lots (601, against 389 in 1956 and 392 in 1955), but this should not be taken as any indication of an accelerated drift to the towns. Encouragement given to Government servants by low-interest loans for building their own homes has affected the number of land applications, and progress in town re-planning and resettlement schemes has resulted in a large increase in the building lots available for alienation. Many of the building lots applied for were situated well away from the main centres.

Applications for rubber land also showed a considerable increase (3,323 against 2,576 in 1956 and 2,326 in 1955). This can be traced to the continued success of the Rubber Replanting Scheme and the availability from Government sources of high yielding planting materials, coupled with rubber land made available by agricultural settlement operations.

#### *Titles*

7,865 titles were issued and 1,529 were cancelled, making the total extant at the end of the year 151,479. An appreciable number of those cancelled were for abandoned pepper gardens or titles prepared following applications for pepper land but not collected.

### *Land Registration*

A total of 10,628 instruments affecting land were registered in the Land Registers at Kuching, Simanggang, Sibü and Miri, compared with 9,774 in 1956. Of these 5,124 were transfers. Charges exceeded releases of charge by nearly one half. This is probably due to increased building activity, particularly in Sibü and Kuching, coupled with the large number of applications received for building land, but the main reason was undoubtedly the low prices of primary products, particularly pepper.

### *Surveys*

Cadastral survey of individual country lots is carried out by compass and chain. These surveys are controlled by theodolite perimeter surveys of blocks measuring not more than forty chains in diameter. The perimeter theodolite surveys are in turn controlled by higher-order theodolite surveys which are connected to the trigonometrical network. Lot boundaries are marked by wooden pegs generally four feet long but up to eight feet in length where the nature of the ground makes this desirable. The pegs are of *belian* wood which is of extreme hardness and practically indestructible.

Most of the field survey staff were engaged on cadastral surveys throughout the year. Surveys have generally kept pace with applications for land and mutations, but in the Third Division a backlog of about four months' work developed because of the temporary transfer of field staff to the First Division where a large number of applications for mutation surveys in Kuching required urgent attention.

In the Fourth and Fifth Divisions good progress was made in revision surveys and the reconstruction of cadastral records destroyed during the war; and the completion of the latter task is now in sight.

Theodolite surveys, including control traverses of all grades and cadastral surveys of town lots, totalled just under 1,446 miles at a cost of about \$240 per mile, and just over 5,269 miles of prismatic compass survey were run at about \$106 per mile. 64,865 boundary and traverse marks were planted, and of these 63,015 were *belian* pegs. Reconnaissance for new secondary and tertiary trigonometrical stations was carried out in the Fourth

Division. In the Second Division observations to establish one new point could not be completed because of bad weather. Small isolated topographical surveys were carried out in all Divisions, mainly in connection with building and housing projects.

### *Mapping*

The Directorate of Overseas Surveys in England completed the Santubong-Lingga block 1/50,000 mapping, and copies of all published maps were received. Of the sixty-two sheets covering the Rejang-Bintulu Block, six sheets were published and bulk supplies of five of these have been received.

Slotted template work on a block of 1,350 square miles of 1/25,000 mapping was completed, and compilation work is well in hand. Preparatory work on the first sheet of the 1/125,000 map, which will eventually supersede the present two miles to an inch series, is well in hand. Only minor amendments, such as the revision of names, are being made to the two-mile sheets which had previously been compiled.

One fair drawing, for reproduction of base maps at scales of 1/1,500,000, 1/2,000,000, 1/2,500,000, and 1/3,000,000, was prepared and from this Land Use, Land Classification and Index maps were prepared.

### *Land Valuation*

Much time was taken up with the preparation for rental revisions under the new Land Code, and a basis for revision fair to both the Crown and the lessee was reached. Full records of sales of land were maintained. The system of recording sales has now been in operation for three years and is proving most valuable.

Valuations for Stamp Duties, Death Duties, and Housing Loans were carried out. One of the minor duties of the valuer is in connection with applications for permits to purchase arms. These permits are not issued unless the applicant's property exceeds a certain value and so applications are referred to the Department for verification. The value of most property in Kuching and Sibü has maintained an unrealistically high level,



but there appear to be indications that prices of building land will become more reasonable. Values of country land have remained steady.

### *Drainage and Irrigation*

A drainage and irrigation engineer joined the Department in October. He visited all Divisions and inspected sites proposed for a pilot scheme.

## HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

### *General*

Efforts to obtain the services of a Town Planner have been unsuccessful. The Department continued to prepare draft plans, on behalf of landowners, for submission to the Kuching Municipal Council and the Sibü Urban District Council, which exercise considerable control, under the Land (Control of Subdivision) Ordinance, 1954, over the subdivision of land within their areas.

### *Kuching*

With the completion of the resettlement of Kampongs Pinang and Jawa the activities of the Department were reduced somewhat. The resettlement of squatters continued to receive attention and the scheme for the resettlement of the Heng Hua Chinese fishing community made some progress. This community is at present crowded into dilapidated community buildings on the outskirts of the town and the scheme provides for their removal to an alternative site which was purchased and for which a layout was prepared. Provision was made for net drying areas, open spaces, school, stores and a shopping centre. The land upon which the fishermen now rent accommodation will revert to the Crown upon expiry of the lease in the near future, and will become available for planned industrial development.

A new suburban shopping centre near the Junior Services quarters at Batu Lintang has been planned. This will consist of twenty shops, a market, and a cinema or hall with parking places for cars and bicycles. Filling has been commenced and the market is under construction. It is just over one and half miles from the centre of the town and it should supply the everyday needs of a large and growing residential area.

The site for the resettlement of the sub-standard shophouses at Maong, three miles from the centre of Kuching, has now been prepared and the shoplots allocated. The site has been levelled and roads made.

### *Building*

The most noteworthy event was the beginning of the development by a private company of a housing estate of 169 units. Plans were approved and site preparation was well advanced, but earth moving activities were somewhat restricted during the monsoon. The houses will be for sale to the public. This is the first private development of a building estate of significant size.

The Municipal low-cost housing scheme progressed well. Tenants moved into the blocks of three-storey flats at Padungan. The new Fire Station was occupied and the site of the old station was laid out by the Municipality as a bus terminus.

### *Sibu*

Sibu continued to develop and the demand for land for both commercial and residential buildings kept values very high. Development of the sixteen acres made available near the centre of the town by the resettlement of the slum area of Kampong Pulau made progress, and building also progressed well on the shoplots, hotel, cinema and business sites auctioned in 1956. Hospital extensions were completed and the development of open spaces progresses.

Negotiations were completed to acquire land for more launch wharves, a river craft refuelling depot, warehouses and contractors' yards. The land acquired was planned to provide better access to the wharf areas, the centre of the town and sites for coffee shops near the wharves.

About fifty acres at Bukit Lima were acquired for a proposed low cost housing scheme to be carried out by the Sibu Urban District Council. It is high, firm, well-drained land, an important consideration at Sibu where soft ground and the likelihood of flooding can raise building costs considerably.

*Miri*

Miri, much smaller than Kuching or Sibu, is not expanding as they are. Bukit is an oil town within the concession area granted to Sarawak Oilfields Limited, and it suffered extensive bomb damage in 1945. Town planning consists therefore in laying out to the best advantage lands no longer necessary to the oil company and released from the concession, and the resettlement of those who, through shortage of land, loss of their houses through bomb damage or for other reasons, live under crowded conditions in sub-standard houses.

A considerable area was released for unrestricted development, including forty-two acres at Tanjong Lobang, for school, church sites and a cemetery and for commercial use.

Resettlement of Kampong China and re-distribution of land made available by the removal of slum houses was practically completed, but slum clearance at Kampong Dagang is making very slow progress.

It was expected that the newly-completed low cost housing estate would accommodate some of the people moved from Kampong Dagang, but the District Council decided to sell the ninety-two units erected under the scheme instead of taking them over, and it remains to be seen whether or not the houses will be occupied by people from Kampong Dagang and other slum areas.

Land excepted from the concession area in 1956 was subdivided into industrial lots and alienated. This removed traders who had been carrying out industrial businesses in the shopping centre.

A lay-out for fifty-three lots in the residential part of the town was prepared. Disposal of these lots awaits clarification of the low-cost housing scheme, but if possible it is proposed to reserve some of these lots for alienation to Government officers wishing to build their own homes. This will reduce the shortage of Government quarters.

*Lawas*

Lawas bazaar was almost destroyed in the re-occupation in 1945, and rebuilt on an unsuitable site and with inferior materials. In 1956 an elevated site of some twelve acres was bought and a lay-out prepared. Levelling of the site is now almost completed.

*Simanggang*

To deal with an increasing number of subdivisions, a road plan for the town and the suburban areas was prepared and approved, and the construction of about a mile of new road was well advanced. Great interest was shown in a relief scale model constructed to illustrate the proposals to the landowners affected. Shoplots made available during 1956 were built upon and occupied. It was found necessary to extend the industrial area.

*In Other Places*

Extensions and resettlement of overcrowded areas were planned or are being carried out in many other towns and villages. Land was made available for shops, industrial and residential development, and for public purposes. Sometimes the acquisition of land was necessary, for example, in the First Division investigations were carried out with a view to the re-siting of the 27th Mile Bazaar on the Simanggang Road. The present bazaar is subject to flooding. At Serian a zoning plan was approved and all the remaining squatters were offered residential lots. At Bau, in co-operation with the Bau District Council, the replacement of temporary shophouses by permanent buildings was enforced and a contour survey was carried out before the planning and surveying of some fifty new residential lots, primarily for the resettlement of squatters.

At Betong in the Second Division over seven acres were acquired, partly for the resettlement of squatters, and at Pusa land was acquired to relieve overcrowding in the kampong.

In the Third Division land was acquired for a hospital at Sarikei. At Kapit, the resettlement of an overcrowded kampong of twenty-nine houses is in progress. At Rantau Panjang a site was selected for a new bazaar and a lay-out approved.

In the Fourth and Fifth Divisions a new residential area was established at Marudi; similar work was carried out at Bintulu, and plans were made for the development of Limbang which, like Bintulu, shows signs of rapid development following the opening up of nearby agricultural areas for Foochow settlement.

## VII

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### PRODUCTION

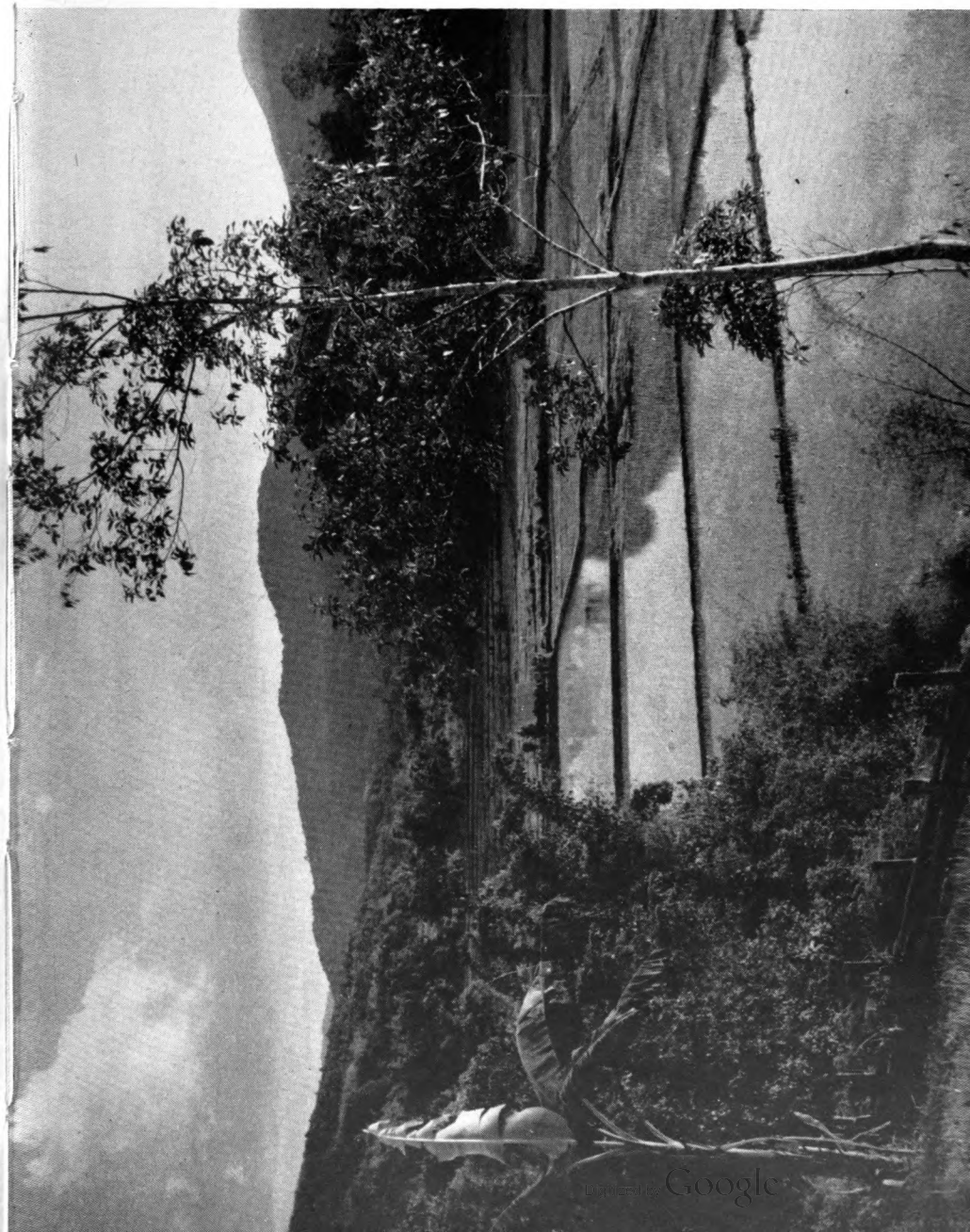
#### AGRICULTURE

**M**ORE than two-thirds of the people of Sarawak are engaged permanently in agriculture which, though much of the available land is excessively steep or water logged or poor, forms the principal source of wealth. In the interior where bush fallowing is the predominant system of farming, the level of production is frequently at or below subsistence level. Diversification of cropping is rarely practised and in general the agricultural pattern of the country is dominated by scattered smallholdings. Only five large estates exist and these are all under plantation rubber.

Rice is by far the most important crop for local consumption and its production is still well below the needs of the people. This is not regarded as serious as other starch crops can easily be produced in adequate quantities in an emergency, and it is economically more sound to buy rice with the revenue derived from the cultivation of more valuable export crops. There is, among all races, a strong preference for rice but sago, tapioca and sweet potatoes are all used in varying degrees to supplement rice.

The crops grown for export are, in order of importance, rubber, pepper, sago and coconuts. Rubber is the mainstay of the country's agricultural economy and despite poor standards of husbandry and production, it provides a regular and economic return. Judged by estate standards the condition of the crop is usually very poor indeed but it can be regarded as the smallholders' "sheet anchor" — it will stand a wide range of soil and considerable neglect; it is relatively free from pests and diseases, and it produces a steady income — a great advantage over more seasonal cash crops. A further decline in pepper prices combined

Murut padi-fields  
at Ba Kelalan in  
the Lawas District  
of the Fifth  
Division



(G.T. Barnes)

*Tugal* in progress  
in the Ulu Ai in  
the Second Divi-  
sion. *Tugal* is a  
method of sowing  
rice for dry-padi  
growing on hill-  
sides



with "foot rot" disease resulted in a reduction in pepper production of 30 per cent compared with 1956. The sago industry was so depressed that in October it was decided to waive the export duty as a temporary relief.

The main emphasis in agricultural development continued to be on rubber, for which a special section of the Department of Agriculture was set up in 1956, but staff improvements enabled more attention to be paid to other activities, prominent among which were the building up of supplies of planting material and improved livestock for issue to the public.

### *Rice*

The export of rice is prohibited. To encourage production, Government undertakes to purchase at a guaranteed price all surplus padi delivered at selected centres. This price is determined annually. In the first seven months it was fixed at \$15.00 per pikul ( $133\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.) and later reduced to \$13.25.

Padi is grown both as dry padi on the steep slopes of the interior under a bush fallow system, and as wet padi on river levees, deltas, and the coastal flats. Under the most favourable conditions yields of dry padi are reasonable but not on average as high as those for wet padi which regularly average over 400 *gantangs* (gallons) per acre in good areas. Standards of cultivation vary but it is still the vagaries of weather which determine the quality of a harvest. Systems of double cropping, either with wet or dry padi, are not practised although frequently early maturing food crops such as maize, beans and gourds may be sown along with the dry padi seed. The acreage under controlled drainage and irrigation is negligible and there is much room for an increase in wet padi by improved water control.

The 1956/57 crop of wet and dry padi was much better than the year before and in most areas yields were above average. There was some flood damage early in the year and in over-farmed areas the yield was, as usual, below the requirements of the people, but it was generally agreed that 1956/57 was a good padi season. With lower prices for pepper and rubber, more of the small inland swamps were brought back into cultivation — some roadside areas in the First Division of quite microscopic size were being farmed again.



Despite the good season and larger acreages, imports of rice into Sarawak rose sharply when the control of import trade was lifted, as the following figures show:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Tons</i>
1955	31,093
1956	37,544
1957	46,982

In 1957 an attempt was made for the first time to estimate padi acreages. The figures were incomplete, but it is probable that at least 60,000 acres of wet padi and 140,000 acres of dry padi were planted. These, with average yields of approximately 12 to 15 pikuls of wet padi and 5 to six pikuls of dry padi per acre, indicate a total production of close to 100,000 tons of padi or 60,000 tons of rice, and this suggests that previous estimates of consumption and production erred on the low side.

Although there are a number of padi pests and diseases, the crop is not normally subject to very severe outbreaks and in the last two years the free anti-pest campaign of the Department has been very popular and successful. Serious rat damage can now be regarded as largely due to neglect, as the use of zinc phosphide is well known and widespread; but insects are occasionally more troublesome. A few sharp attacks of army worm were dealt with by Department staff and the swing fog apparatus recently acquired has proved useful. In some areas farmers themselves have shown interest in purchasing simple spraying equipment.

### *Rubber*

The acreage of rubber planted in Sarawak is recorded as 265,821, of which 13,285 comprise the only five estates of over 1,000 acres in extent. There is no doubt that this figure is increased by many thousands of acres of illegally-planted rubber in the far interior where controlled planting is, at present, almost impossible to supervise. There is a small number of medium size holdings averaging perhaps 100 to 300 acres each, but the industry is predominantly one of smallholdings.

The tonnage and the value of rubber exported since 1951 is as follows:—

Year	Tons	Value \$
1951	42,521	158,865,402
1952	31,471	65,182,029
1953	23,958	31,616,358
1954	23,189	31,087,822
1955	39,411	78,744,880
1956	41,232	68,635,041
1957	41,005	73,301,798

It will be noted that production in 1957 was only some 200 tons below that of the previous year, the second highest since the war.

The price trend was again one of gradual decline, though it did not touch the lowest level of 1956. The starting point in January of \$118 per pikul eased in almost monthly stages through the year, except for a small rise in August, to reach the December price of \$79 per pikul.

Rubber is exported as sheet and blanket crepe but the quality generally is extremely low. This accounts for a considerable loss in potential revenue to primary producers. Upwards of 90 per cent of the rubber exported was classed as RSS (Ribbed Smoked Sheets) grades 3, 4 and 5 which compares most unfavourably with the normal estate standard of a minimum output of 70 per cent No. 1 RSS. The acreage of mature high-yielding rubber is negligible and the majority of the holdings comprise old, unselected seedling trees, badly planted, maintained and tapped, and rapidly approaching the stage where production will become uneconomic even for smallholders except when prices are abnormally high.

While the foregoing presents a somewhat dismal picture of the rubber industry, steps are being taken to improve it. The Revised Rubber Planting Scheme introduced in the middle of 1956 aims at both the planting of uneconomical areas and the establishment of new holdings. It provides for the substantial subsidy of \$200 per acre and \$450 per acre, in cash and kind, to approved new planters and to replanters respectively. It embraces estates of all sizes and smallholders of all races. Since the introduction of the scheme, approval has been granted for subsidies to 1,737 applicants to plant 14,447 acres and to replant 2,460 acres.

Applications in 1957 to partake in the scheme in 1958 indicate that some 20,000 acres will be added to the above figures. Certain of these 1958 applicants were given temporary approval to plant in 1957 so as not to blunt their enthusiasm and the total acreage of high yielding rubber planted through the scheme by the end of the year was 8,137 acres. Another 3,000 acres were planted with first class stumps for field budding in 1958.

Substantial subsidy issues of fertilisers and other planting materials were made; 1,132,830 points of clonal seeds or seedlings were issued, and 2,044 yards of budwood, supported by 449½ tons of fertilisers. Cover crop seeds, weedicides and pesticides were also distributed as part of the grant where necessary. Cash payments amount to \$75,800.

A high standard of husbandry conforming with modern planting technique is insisted upon and accepted by the approved planters. Only the highest class of planting material is used, mainly of clonal seedling stumps, produced from imported Malayan seed, and cultivated in nurseries established at centres throughout Sarawak.

### *Pepper*

The decline in pepper production confidently anticipated in 1956 (which turned out instead to be a record year) came in 1957. The prices of both white and black pepper fell steadily through the year with a slight rally in June and stood at \$85 per pikul for white and \$58 per pikul for black in Kuching at the end of December. As a result, gardens tended to be neglected as regards both manure and labour. The 1957 crop was late and the effect of "foot rot" disease combined with the above factors was reflected in a reduction in production of both white and black. Only 105 applications for land for pepper were received, against 312 in 1956 and 431 in 1955.

Towards the end of the year "foot rot" disease appeared to be quiescent in the First Division and very few outbreaks were seen on the main road between Kuching and Serian — the principal pepper growing district. Despite low prices, some interest in pepper planting appears to be maintained by the Chinese gardeners and there are small but significant areas of new planting still going on in the First Division. Interest among Dayak

planters whose standards of husbandry are always lower and whose yields are poorer as a result, declined very markedly. The following table shows the quantities and value of pepper exported from various Sarawak ports in recent years (in thousands of hundredweights):—

Year	Kuching	Rejang ports	Miri	Total	Value \$
1950	3.3	2.1	0.2	6	4,107,166
1951	10.9	12.5	0.7	24	17,925,184
1952	41.4	36.3	2.5	80	33,031,835
1953	118.0	56.2	5.8	180	49,443,086
1954	189.0	107.0	13.0	309	43,706,513
1955	203.8	111.3	10.7	326	31,624,800
1956	234.4	148.8	10.6	396	24,610,131
1957	172.6	95.1	7.1	275	17,231,981

Because of lack of storage and credit facilities, nearly all the pepper produced in the Third Division and an appreciable part of the remaining production is sold on consignment in Singapore and, as Sarawak is one of the three major producers, this is widely held to be one of the principal causes of low world prices.

A Pepper Advisory Committee was set up by the Government to study the needs of the industry and at the end of 1957 the possibility of improved marketing was under investigation by the newly formed Marketing Advisory Committee.

Foot-rot disease is now confirmed from all the Divisions except the Fifth where pepper cultivation has virtually ceased. Culture work by the Commonwealth Mycological Institute has resulted in the finding of oospores which fit in with those of *phytophthora hibernalis* Carne. Black pepper would be a new host record, but identification is not yet certain. Most commonly the fungus appears to attack the youngest roots first, and then spreads to the older roots until entry is made into the underground stem. Usually it is not until the stem has become attacked that symptoms are visible above ground. These are: a halt in the growth of the terminal shoots, leaf wilt, rapid leaf yellowing and the fall of leaves and minor branches. The most characteristic symptom, however, is the sharp juncture between healthy (yellowish) and necrotic (black) tissue in the outer parts of the

stem and roots. This shows up clearly when the cork layers are scraped off and at present the identification of the disease in the field depends on finding this symptom. It is in the region of this juncture that the active growth of the pathogen occurs. When the first vines begin to die in a garden, root infection may already be widespread. The appearance of above-ground symptoms is extremely variable and can be rapid.

The senior plant pathologist visited India and Indonesia and was able to secure four varieties from India and three from Indonesia (including the alleged "foot rot" resistant *belantung* variety) which are now established in the plant house.

### *Coconuts*

No special work has been possible on coconuts during the year and the results of the 1956 rough survey indicate that a soil survey of potential areas is required before any large-scale development can be considered. A Coconut Advisory Committee was set up by the Government and met once to discuss possible improvements in the industry. It is quite clear that an increase in production could be absorbed by local copra mills, as there was no surplus for export in 1957 and 102 tons of copra were imported for milling.

### *Sago*

The sago industry became even more depressed and prices fell steadily from \$12 per pikul in January to \$6 per pikul in December. The situation was so acute that it was decided in October to waive the export duty and the fact that production was maintained — exports even exceeded the 1956 figures by a small margin — merely reflects the fact that most sago producing communities have virtually no other economic activity to which they can turn. Export figures for sago flour over the past few years are as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Value</i> \$
1952	22,619	5,954,774
1953	16,073	4,371,384
1954	12,543	2,828,635
1955	9,871	2,006,735
1956	12,576	2,422,702
1957	12,780	2,088,559

The Sago Advisory Committee visited the Second Division producing areas and suggested that, if suitable workers could be obtained, the mechanisation of a typical sago factory might be tried. The decision to register factories has been held up pending further investigation, in view of the very low prices and doubt about the real requirements of consumers. In spite of low prices, the number of applications for sago land rose slightly. This may possibly mean an increased interest in pig-raising.

### *Minor Crops*

Maize, sweet potatoes, tapioca, cocoa, and yams are all cultivated to a limited extent as supplements to padi, and maize is assuming some importance in parts of the First and Fifth Divisions where it is interplanted through dry padi, and sold for cash. Small hand-operated maize shellers have proved popular in the Fifth Division. Vegetable crops are usually cultivated on an extensive scale as intercrops through hill padi and, near the centres of population, Chinese gardeners grow a variety of market crops which are very profitable.

Fruit trees are still in big demand and during the year the Department set up greatly expanded nurseries for the production of budded rambutans and durians, using selected clonal budwood supplied by the Malayan Department of Agriculture. Coffee planting was still popular and it was decided to issue seedlings free to try to get as large an acreage of this crop planted as possible. Pure seed of the *robusta* variety was obtained from Malaya to start a new isolated seed production garden at Tarat.

### *Research*

With the arrival of three new Agricultural Officers it was possible to start the research side of the Department's activities. One senior officer was detached for full time work at Tarat, the Department's main experimental station. Building of the soils laboratory began and towards the end of the year the Soil Chemist arrived and went to New Zealand to gain experience of the organisation of the New Zealand Soil Survey Department. The creation of two new agronomist posts — one for pepper and one for rice — was approved and an officer to fill the rice post was secured.

## AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Apart from a few trainees who received general instruction in simple techniques at agricultural stations and the fortnightly rubber courses at Samarahan in the First Division, which continued to be popular and serve a most useful purpose, the only activity in agricultural education was a trial course for a group of Baram farmers at First Division stations. Making allowance for the primitive facilities available, this course was most successful and the experience will be useful in organising the projected Rural Agricultural Centre of which approval was given by the Development Board.

The two Information Office papers, *Pembrita* and *Pedoman Ra'ayat* continued to give valuable support and in co-operation with Radio Sarawak a series of discussion broadcasts was produced and is reported to have an enthusiastic following in the interior. These were at first confined to rubber planting scheme topics, but later the basis was broadened to include broadcasts on pest control and more general agricultural topics.

## ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Animal husbandry still plays a very small part in rural economy and the principle of incorporating livestock into general farming practice (for example, manure production, rotational cropping, and land usage in a circumscribed farming area) have still to be appreciated by the rural population.

A provisional livestock census was completed in part and figures received (admittedly incomplete) are—

<i>Division</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Buffaloes</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Goats</i>
First	129	unknown	10,604	233
Second	1,825	82	25,870	1,302
Third	1,765	225	20,386	1,572
Fourth	394	260	5,455	531
Fifth	277	4,980	4,407	275
	<hr/> 4,390	<hr/> 5,552	<hr/> 66,722	<hr/> 3,933



(G.S.I.S.)

Young farmers from the region of the Baram River in the Fourth Division working on a rubber plantation during a training course organised by the Department of Agriculture



High-yielding  
rubber stumps,  
provided under  
the Govern-  
ment's scheme for  
improving rubber  
yield, being loaded  
for a journey along  
the coast to Mukah  
in the Third  
Division



(Lara'ee Dinok)

Buffaloes are used in the Fifth Division for rice cultivation and draught to a limited extent.

There is no attempt to manage cattle on a practical basis for either milk or meat production, except for a few small herds in Kuching and Miri, where milk is produced under poor hygienic conditions and in small quantities.

Poultry and goats are kept on a back yard or kampong basis mainly for personal consumption but a few flocks of poultry are kept as commercial units. Production of pigs for pork is increasing but the importation of pigs is still high. Issues of breeding stock from departmental piggeries, which will have an effect in future, were eighty-six boars and 101 sows and gilts, mainly Middle White, Tamworth and Berkshire crosses. Buffaloes and cattle are also imported to a lesser extent. The figures of import for livestock in 1957 compared with 1956 are—

	1956	1957
Cattle and Buffaloes	595	998
Pigs	17,707	13,679
Poultry	31,949	34,592

Livestock slaughtered during 1957 (for Kuching only) are—

	1956	1957
Cattle	357	409
Buffaloes	256	217
Pigs (local)	7,623	9,384
Pigs (imported)	7,393	7,559
Goats	251	297
Sheep	229	158

The Veterinary Laboratory and Clinic in Kuching dealt with an increased amount of diagnostic work, the majority of cases concerning diseases of pigs. In cattle there were endemic cases of *piroplasmiasis* and two outbreaks of *haemorrhagic septicaemia* neither of which was very severe. In pigs pneumonia and worm infestation are the two most serious conditions and accounted for most of the 2,443 pigs treated during the year. There were three reports of *pasteurellosis* in pigs.

The number of poultry protected against ranikhet diseases is still increasing as the following figures show :—

1955	1956	1957
50,466	102,884	172,142

Fowl pox vaccination began and 4,411 birds were treated between August and December.

Diagnostic work at the Kuching Veterinary Clinic increased considerably: 1,031 blood films, 1,508 faeces examinations and sundry other laboratory examinations were done. 2,443 pigs, 114 cattle, 327 dogs and 91 other animals were treated.

#### FISHERIES

By providing an important source of animal protein in the diet of a large number of people, marine and freshwater fisheries are of great consequence to the economy. Marine fishing is so far very much the more important and it is pursued systematically by Malays, Melanaus, and Chinese (Heng Hua) fishermen in the shallow coastal waters and the estuaries of the larger rivers. A wide variety of fishing methods is used, each evolved by long trial and error under local conditions, and although the techniques may appear crude they are nevertheless relatively efficient in operation. The demand for fish remains unsatisfied and is steadily increasing, and steps must be taken to expand and modernise the industry.

The Senior Fisheries Assistant of the Department of Agriculture completed a tour arranged by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations. This covered the study of fishing methods in Great Britain, Canada, Japan, Hong Kong and Malaya. On his return to duty it was decided that he should concentrate on the development of inland fisheries, and a survey of existing fish ponds was begun and the rearing ponds at departmental stations in the First Division expanded to provide supplies of fry to farmers. A total of 1,433 tilapia and 1,116 trilogaster were issued by the Department during the latter part of the year and ninety-nine new ponds were constructed, thirty-three by Land Dayaks in the Padawan area and thirty-six by Malays, Javanese and Land Dayaks in the Semongok area, mainly

as a result of Departmental activities. Chinese carp of various species are widely reared by Chinese farmers and some 41,000 fry were imported in the year.

On the Marine Fisheries side the main activity of note was the development of the loan system for installation of inboard engines into local fishing craft, and a further ten of such loans were arranged after inspection and advice on suitable modification of boat structure (where necessary) by the Fishing Master. These loans are for the installation of 4 h.p. engines and are interest-free and repayable over five years. In addition the Fishing Master gave instructions in the use of lines of bubu traps and a group of Malay fishermen who tried them found this a profitable business, especially in the *landas* or north-west monsoon season. Further trials with the purse seine net using "baits" of anchored leaves suggested that, with new and deeper nets, there may be a future in this system. One of the main difficulties with marine fisheries work was the fact that the M.F.V. *Saripah* was out of action with mechanical trouble for a large part of the year.

#### FORESTRY

A description of the natural forest, covering nearly three-quarters of Sarawak, appeared in the 1955 Report. The Government's forestry policy, and the principles governing the administration of the Forest Department, are also set out in detail in the 1955 edition.

#### *Exploration*

Preliminary examination of the extensive coastal peat-swamps is now almost complete. During the year, about 36 square miles of swamp forest at the extreme north-east of the Maludam peninsula in the Second Division were examined, in continuation of work done in neighbouring areas in previous years. Some twenty-six square miles, mostly mixed swamp forest, are considered to be of exploitable quality and some of it is very good indeed, with excellent stands of *ramin*. Much of it, however, is cut off from main lines of communication by broad belts of poor forest.

In the Bintulu District, the lowland *dipterocarp* forest to the east of the Jelalong river was explored. It is of good quality, better than that on the other bank of the river; but the country

is rather rough, and exploitation to any reasonable depth will require advanced methods of extraction.

In the Fifth Division, the Section Forest Officer explored the headwaters of the Medalam, one of the principal tributaries of the Limbang. The soil is poor, and the country rugged, rising steeply to the watershed at about 3,000 feet; but the forest is of fair quality. The constitution of a Protected Forest in this area, mainly for protective reasons, is under consideration.

#### *Constitution of Permanent Forests*

Two hundred and twelve square miles of forest were added to the permanent forest estate during the year, bringing the total area up to 10,780 square miles, equivalent to approximately 22·7 per cent of the land area of the country. The new forests of the estate include the Saribas-Kelaka Forest Reserve, an exceptionally valuable *ramin* forest in the Second Division; an extension, mainly of protective value, to the Kebulu Protected Forest in the Bintulu District; an extension to the Niah Forest Reserve, a valuable potential source of *belian* in the Miri District; and the Lower Baram Forest Reserve, one of the few extensive tracts of mixed swamp forest along the Baram river. In addition to these fully constituted forests, 238 square miles of forest are under preliminary notification.

There are signs of increasing interest in communal forests, and during the year two of these were, for the first time, constituted in Divisions other than the Third. There are now fourteen communal forests, with an area of thirty-nine square miles.

#### *Forest Inventories*

In Sarawak the soils, and consequently the vegetation types, are so varied in quite small areas that proper management of the permanent forest on a basis of sustained yield is impossible unless stock-maps are carefully prepared. The method generally used is to make a preliminary map from aerial photographs, and to check the interpretation and assess the quality of the forest by the detailed examination of sample strips. The area covered by these surveys during the year was 370 square miles in addition to some intensification of previous preliminary surveys over more limited areas. A great deal of help in the preparation of preliminary maps is received from the Forest Air Survey Centre of the Directorate of Overseas Surveys.

### *Working Plans*

In the Third Division a plan of management for the swamp forests of the Lower Mukah was completed and brought into operation. The plan covers an area of 117 square miles, but of this only eighty-five square miles carry forest of exploitable quality. The felling cycle is fixed at fifty-four years to give an annual coupe of about 1,000 acres. A smaller coupe is considered uneconomic. Felling rules are laid down, and silvicultural operations are prescribed to follow the fellings.

In the Fifth Division a working plan for the swamp forest of the Lawas District was prepared and brought into force. This covers an area of forty-eight square miles, but only seventeen square miles are productive, and the preparation of a plan has provided many difficulties because of haphazard fellings in the past. The plan is for a uniform system of fellings on a rotation of seventy years.

### *Silviculture*

Sarawak relies mainly on methods of natural regeneration for the rehabilitation and improvement of its forests, and silvicultural works in favour of young regrowth were carried out over 2,741 acres during the year. The formation of plantations is still on a small and mainly experimental scale.

### *Forest Industries*

At the end of the year there were sixty-five licensed sawmills working in the country. The total cut of commercial wood, in terms of round timber, was 407,336 tons of fifty Hoppus feet, as compared with 445,000 tons in 1956. Of this total, approximately 76 per cent was exported, and timber exports, which are summarised in the following table, were valued at \$19,558,560 f.o.b. as compared with \$19,064,435 in 1956.

(The United Kingdom, which is by far the most important market, is almost entirely interested in the timber of *ramin* (*gonystylus bancanus*). The depression in the *ramin* market mentioned in last year's report, was at its worst at the turn of 1956-57, but the year saw a steady and substantial improvement, considerably assisted by export restrictions, which remain in force.)

Destination	Sawn timber Tons of 50 cu. ft.	Round timber Tons of 50 Hoppus ft.	Total equivalent in round timber Tons of 50 Hoppus ft.	
			1957	1956
United Kingdom	65,057	337	130,450	114,766
Australia	2,263	49,291	53,818	63,016
Hong Kong	21,765	8,761	52,290	47,276
Borneo ports	6,050	3,766	15,865	16,691
Germany	4,326	4,766	13,417	8,069
Singapore	1,262	8,688	11,212	1,206
Netherlands	4,762	160	9,685	11,555
Egypt	4,857	745	10,460	111
Italy	2,714	47	5,473	4,717
Belgium	488	—	976	4,300
South Africa	462	—	923	526
Denmark	—	—	—	3,279
U.S.A.	1,298	1,447	4,045	2,030
Others	115,304	78,008	308,616	3,835
TOTALS ...	230,608	156,016	617,230	281,377

The Forest Department has little control over most kinds of minor forest produce except when these are collected in permanent forests. The most important are canes, cutch, damar, getah jelutong and other wild rubbers, illipe nuts and palm sugar. Good illipe nut crops occur only at irregular and rather long intervals, and production during 1957 was again negligible. There was a good flowering of the trees, at least in the southern half of the country, towards the end of the year, but much of it was destroyed by early monsoon storms.

The total f.o.b. value of minor forest products exported was \$2,331,313 as compared with \$2,914,301 in 1956.

### Research

The principal current local research projects are—

- (1) Studies of the composition and ecology of peat-swamp forests.
- (2) Studies in the management and silviculture of mixed swamp forest.
- (3) Studies of the composition and ecology of *kerangas* forests.

- (4) Spot tests of the suitability of various timber species for planting on poor *kerangas* soils.

Miscellaneous projects undertaken during the year included a comparative evaluation of the tannin content of the bark of various species and sizes of mangrove trees; examination of the tannin content of the bark of *simpoh paya* (*dillenia pulchella*) and *keruntum* (*combretocarpus rotundatus*), both of which gave a negligible yield; a preliminary comparison of the woods of the Sarawak species of *kapur* (*dryobalanops*); a further study of the relationship between basal girth and timber volume in *ramin*; and replication of the previous preliminary trials of plant hormones as arboricides. Of these projects the first three were undertaken with the help of the Colonial Products Laboratory, the Sarawak Company Limited, and the Forest Products Research Laboratory of Princes Risborough.

#### NATIONAL PARKS

Work on the development of the Bako National Park, mainly in the provision of more accommodation for visitors and the construction of more paths, continued. The Park has proved very popular with holiday-makers from Kuching, and 4,500 visitors were recorded in 1957.

Scientific studies of the area, mainly botanical, ornithological and entomological, were also continued. The vegetation of the whole area, which is of outstanding interest, has now been classified and mapped.

#### MINERAL RESOURCES

Noteworthy developments during 1957 were the establishment of a bauxite mine, the drilling of the first test hole for oil beneath the South China Sea in Sarawak's continental shelf area, and the record export of nearly \$377,000,000 of mineral products. The main mineral resources are oil, gold, bauxite, coal, stone, phosphate, antimony, and mercury; their distribution is shown on the map facing page 56. This year glass-sand of first class quality was found. Small occurrences are known of silver, lead, copper, diamonds, gypsum, ilmenite, zircon, monazite, iron ore, sapphire, and kaolin; and salt is obtained by native methods in



the interior. Detailed descriptions of Sarawak mineral resources, together with production records, are given in the Annual Reports of the Geological Survey Department.

#### PRODUCTION

Mineral products consisted of oil, gold, phosphate, bricks, lime, tiles, gravel and stone, of an estimated value of \$5,348,000. Mineral exports of oil and gold were valued at \$376,943,245. About \$11,034,000 was paid as revenue in royalties, company tax, and mining rents, much of this from the oil industry. Most of the oil exported came from Brunei, piped to Sarawak, and some of it was treated at the Lutong Refinery in Sarawak. Exports comprised crude oil, gasoline, kerosene, gas oil, fuel oil, diesel fuel, and diesel fuel bunkers.

Mining leases covered 1,424 acres, of which 944 acres were for gold and 480 acres were for bauxite; this is the only land reserved exclusively for mining. Oil rights are held by Sarawak Oilfields Limited over 10,850 square miles of land and the off-shore continental shelf area. About 36,650 square miles, representing some seventy-seven per cent of the land area held by the oil company, were surrendered, mostly in hinterland country built of rocks in which oil has not so far been found. Fourteen general prospecting licences and two mining leases were issued. Most prospecting licences were for gold in the Bau district; four were for antimony, one for mercury, and one for coal at Silantek, examined early in the year by Japanese technicians. A mining lease for bauxite was issued to Sematan Bauxite Limited.

#### OIL

The 1957 output from Miri was 65,906 long tons, valued at \$3,600,524; the yield is decreasing. The oil was obtained from 180 pumping wells, ranging in depth from 300 to 3,050 feet; it comes from middle and upper miocene sands.

Oil exported from Lutong was 5,476,759 long tons valued at \$376,852,149. Most was crude oil, but there was also enriched crude gasoline, diesel fuel, kerosene, gas oil, isobutane concentrate, naphtha, and Lutong residue. The refinery output in long

# Distribution of SARAWAK MINERAL RESOURCES

SCALE 1:3,000,000 OR ABOUT 48 MILES TO ONE INCH

20 10 0 20 40 60 80 100 MILES

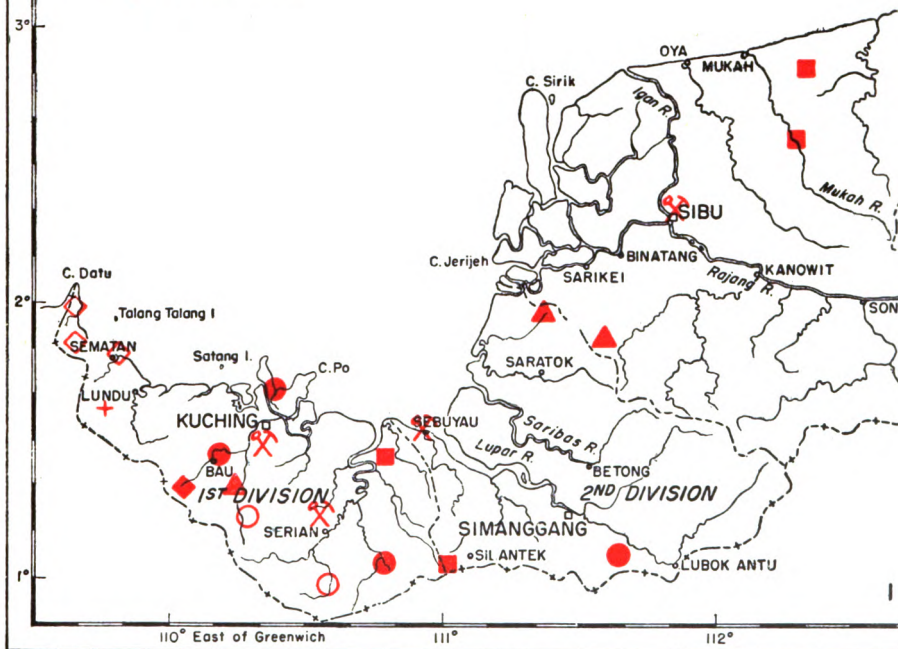
□ Divisional Headquarters  
• Other Settlements

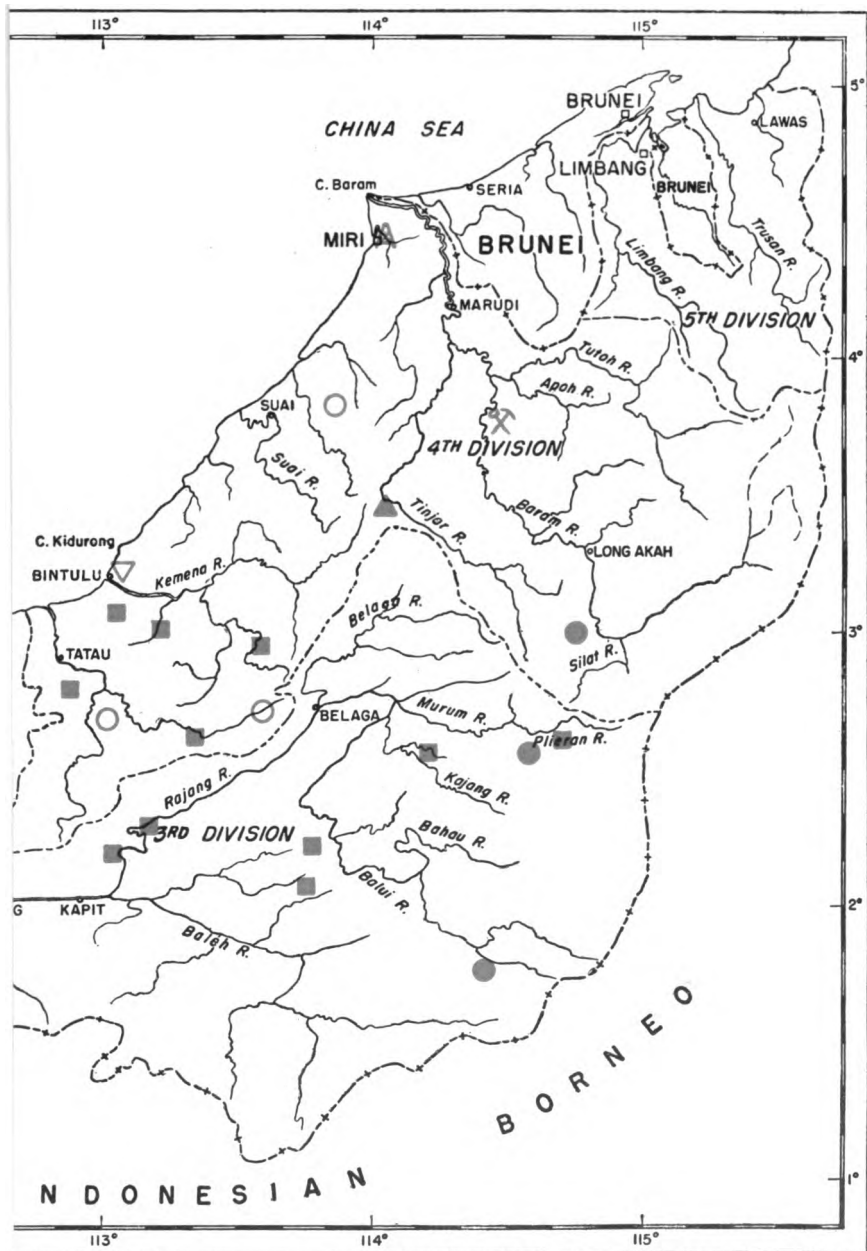
+ — — — + International Boundary  
- - - - - Divisional Boundary

- GOLD
- COAL
- ▲ OIL
- ▲ ANTIMONY
- ◆ MERCURY
- ✂ STONE QUARRY
- ▽ BLACK SAND

- ◇ BAUXITE
- + MANGANESE
- PHOSPHATE

The economic value of the main resources is indicated on the MINERAL RESOURCES MAP of BRITISH BORNEO, 1:1,000,000, 1955





GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DEPARTMENT, BRITISH TERRITORIES IN BORNEO, 1954

tons was: gasoline 398,486; kerosene 33; gas oil 54,659; diesel fuel 1,116,921; Lutong residue 567,976; naphtha 159,775; and isobutane concentrate 13,893.

During 1957 the search for new oilfields continued energetically, the main effort being in the off-shore area of the continental shelf. A steel platform was built at Siwa, some eight miles out at sea, and two test holes drilled, the deepest reaching 7,680 feet. The rocks with which the oil is associated on the Miri field were met but no oil was found. A mobile drilling barge now being built will be used to test further promising parts of the 55,000 square miles of Sarawak's continental shelf.

## GOLD

Production for 1957 was 902 ounces, an increase of 284 fine ounces over 1956.

## PHOSPHATE

Production during 1957 was 465 long tons, valued at \$75,575, on which royalty and commission amounted to \$13,188.

## BUILDING MATERIALS AND STONE

Stone, gravel, bricks, lime and tiles produced were valued at \$1,580,190. The output is summarized as follows:—

	<i>Production</i>	<i>Value</i> \$
Stone	110,849 cubic yards	948,380
Gravel	16,789 cubic yards	155,930
Bricks	3,240,000 pieces	433,650
Lime	253 tons	29,750
Tiles	120,000 pieces	13,200

Some fifteen miles of the 90-mile road from Serian in the First Division to Simanggang, the headquarters of the Second Division, has been started and quarrying of stone from some of the fourteen possible quarry sites discovered near the road-trace is providing ample material for road building and saving large sums which would otherwise have to be spent in transporting stone.

## ALUMINIUM ORE

Mining equipment for working the aluminium ore (bauxite) at Sematan in West Sarawak was imported and a washing plant and a wharf built. Arrangements for mining were nearly completed by the end of 1957, and export is to start in early 1958 with shipments of about 180,000 tons annually. Steel lighters of 250-ton capacity will take the bauxite about four miles to sea to 10,000-ton freighters which will carry it to Japan and Formosa.

Bauxite was discovered in West Sarawak by a Government geologist during 1949. Over twenty occurrences are now known, of which three appear to be large and accessible enough to be worth mining. They would yield about 5,625,000 tons of washed bauxite. The amount of ore available in the remaining occurrences is unknown. Most of them are isolated, inland, small, or contain ore of poor grade, but only a reconnaissance of the areas in which they occur has so far been made, and a more detailed examination will probably reveal extensions to the known bauxite deposits and lead to the discovery of more ore. The British Aluminium Company Limited prospected from late 1949 to 1952; they were looking for about 20,000,000 tons or more of bauxite which was not found. In 1955 a local company named Sematan Bauxite Limited was formed; after further investigations plans were made in 1956 for mining the 2,600,000 ton deposit at Munggu Belian near Sematan.

## MINERALS INVESTIGATED

Minerals described briefly below have been investigated, but were not mined during 1957. In the past there has been a considerable production of coal, antimony ore, and mercury ore, of which details are given in past reports.

*Coal*

One general prospecting licence for coal was issued over the Silantek-Abok area in west Sarawak in 1957, and a party of Japanese engineers and company directors visited the field; their findings are reported in this year's Geological Survey Annual Report.

*Antimony*

During 1957 there was no recorded mining of this mineral but four general prospecting licences were issued for the testing of deposits in the Bau district, the Baram Valley, and the Selalang and Roban areas in the lower Rejang Valley. An examination of the Baram River occurrences was made in 1957.

## VIII

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### CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

TEN new co-operative societies with an initial membership of 296 were added to the register during the year. They comprised four "padi savings" (three of which included provision for cash loans), one "padi milling", two "marketing", two "savings" (one only including provision for loans) and one "consumers" co-operative society. There were six cancellations during the year: one "padi savings", one "store", two "rural thrift and credit", one rural "savings and loan" and one "padi milling" society. Of the cancellations one rural thrift and credit society went into voluntary liquidation to amalgamate with a padi savings and loan society in the same village, and the padi milling society, which had always flourished since it began in 1954, succumbed to internal dissention.

The total number of societies on the register at the end of the year was one hundred and fifty-four.

Producers societies are: thirty-eight padi savings societies (of which five provide for cash loans in their by-laws), twenty-four padi milling societies, and four marketing societies. There were more enquiries about the formation of marketing societies from pig and poultry breeders and fishermen. The higher relative yield from padi caused by the decline in other produce prices, and the 1957 padi harvest which though uneven was generally better than in the previous year, were reflected in the operations of most padi savings societies.

The processing societies are twenty-four padi milling societies, the same as at the end of 1956. The absence of restriction upon the operation of small mills, and the existence of uneconomic concerns makes the existence of a number of co-operative mills very precarious.

Marketing societies increased by two during the year. Of these one, formed in the First Division in April for the marketing

of members' fish, shed considerable light upon the distributive side of the fishing industry. The other new society was formed in the Third Division in December to market members' poultry and eggs and to supply poultry feed to members. Increasing local production and importation from Singapore make eggs and poultry a falling market. The two vegetable marketing societies continued to operate, selling their members' produce retail at stalls rented in town markets. The number of consumers' stores societies was unchanged. A rural society composed of the staff and pupils of a Rural Improvement School was liquidated when the school closed and a new society of mainly Foochow membership was registered.

In October a conference held in the reading room of one of the older, well-established societies, was attended by thirty-four delegates from all eleven consumer societies in the Third Division, representing nearly one thousand two hundred members. At this conference, which was also attended by a number of departmental staff, the way was explored with great caution for the closer association of societies in the fields of purchase, staff training and co-operative education.

There are sixty financial societies: four urban "thrift and loan" with limited liability; one urban society for savings only, twenty-eight rural "savings and loan" societies of which one was confined to women, also with limited liability, and twenty-seven rural "thrift and credit" societies with unlimited liability. Two of the four urban thrift and loan societies which functioned throughout the year overhauled and tightened up their loan policies. Rural savings and loan societies with limited liability increased by one. All were of Sea Dayak membership. Three other primary societies were formed — one farming, one cattle breeding and one better-living and village. The last opened a night school for adult literacy.

Membership of the Sarawak Co-operative Central Bank, Limited, increased by seven and members' deposits by \$34,700. The Bank arranged investment of \$70,000 on behalf of members. Following the decision to broaden the range of purposes for which finance might be provided for co-operative societies under the revised development plan a loan of \$250,000, interest free for ten years, was made by the Government to the bank.



Six school thrift societies were supervised by the Department. As members are not of an age to qualify for membership of registered societies, the societies remain unregistered.

Mr. Peter Goullart's report on his mission in 1955 and 1956 was received. Most of the recommendations had already been implemented. In June Sir Alexander MacFarquhar from the International Labour Organisation office in Bangkok visited the Department.

The quarterly magazine, *Co-operation in Sarawak*, was produced in English, Malay, Sea Dayak and Chinese, and an article was reprinted as a pamphlet for use in the co-operative education of Chinese members of consumer societies, principally in the Third Division.

A departmental conference in Kuching in July was attended by officers in charge of all divisions, and a staff conference of the First and Second Division divisional staff was held in Kuching in December.

A Co-operative Officer received an International Labour Organisation Travelling Fellowship and left in August for a six months' course of study in Malaya, India and Ceylon. Arrangements were completed during the year for staff training at the Co-operative College at Kuala Lumpur. Two places are assured for 1958.

# IX

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## SOCIAL SERVICES

### EDUCATION

**A**N important feature of education in 1957 was the large increase in the number of children attending school. During the post-war years enrolments had risen fairly steadily by an average annual increase of about 3,200 pupils. There was a larger increase in 1955, and in 1956 the number of children in school rose by nearly 10,000. In 1957 there was a further increase of about 10,000 pupils. This brought the total number of children in school to 79,407. The greatest expansion was in the system of primary education. Seventy new primary schools were opened during 1957.

The rapid increase in the school population has created problems of accommodation, finance and staff. In particular the supply of trained teachers is insufficient for present needs and it was necessary in 1957 to make arrangements for expanding teacher-training facilities.

Since 1948 teacher-training has been carried on in a single centre, at Batu Lintang near Kuching, which is run in close co-operation with the principal missions. Batu Lintang is a residential training centre and offers two courses, each of two years' duration. One course is for native students whose standard of education is below secondary level. These students will become teachers in lower primary native schools. English is included as a subject in this course and all instruction is given through the medium of English. The other course is for native and Chinese students who have completed a secondary education. Most of them will become teachers of higher primary and junior secondary classes, using English as the medium. Some of the Chinese students will become teachers of English in Chinese schools.

The present expansion in the school system has called for an increase in the number of students to be admitted to both courses at Batu Lintang, as well as the provision of training for teachers of general subjects in schools using the medium of Chinese.

The existing accommodation at Batu Lintang is not capable of expansion to meet all these needs. It was therefore decided to open a training centre near Sibü in the Third Division to train teachers for primary and junior secondary Chinese schools, and as teachers of Chinese in English-language schools. Hut accommodation was erected, designed to provide tuition space and residential facilities for 100 students of both sexes. The first phase of building was completed in time for fifty students to be admitted early in 1957. The course will be of two years' duration. Instruction is given in the medium of Chinese (Kuo-yü) but much attention is paid to the teaching of English. Under enthusiastic and conscientious staff, the training centre made excellent progress in its first year. The second phase of building was begun in 1957 to prepare for a further intake of fifty students early in 1958. The recruitment of additional staff was proving a major difficulty.

To increase the number of students admitted to the two courses at Batu Lintang, it was necessary to provide additional accommodation and to strengthen the staff. To release additional accommodation it was decided, as from the beginning of 1958, to transfer most of the academic classes which have been run in conjunction with the training centre to a new Government secondary school to be opened at Kanowit in 1958. The staff of Batu Lintang was greatly strengthened by the return of two Sarawak teachers from courses in the United Kingdom, the appointment of two teachers from Australia and the secondment of two teachers by the Canadian Government under the Colombo Plan.

This was the second year of the operation of the Grant Code. The problems of administering recurrent grants still proved very considerable, especially in view of the large increase in the number of teachers, and placed a heavy burden on the staff of the Education Department. Managements, most of whom are quite inexperienced in the procedure involved and often hampered

The Sarawak  
Amateur Athletic  
Association  
Champion-  
ship Meeting held  
at the Jubilee Re-  
creation Ground,  
in Kuching, on  
13th July, 1957



(G.S.I.S.)



The Sarawak contingent about to leave the Steamship Wharf, Kuching, on 20th July 1957, to attend the Jubilee Scout Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, with their baggage arrayed before them

(G.S.I.S.)



by delays in receiving communications, found difficulty in meeting the requirements of the system. But both Department and managements gained useful experience and procedures suited to the circumstances should be evolved.

The scheme of capital grants, which barely got under way in its first year of operation, made good progress in 1957. A number of major schemes were approved, and grants of more than \$500,000 were paid. It was found that grants of fifty per cent were often not enough to finance permanent buildings of a satisfactory standard for native schools, and it was decided that if the local community had raised the maximum contribution that could reasonably be expected, grants in excess of fifty per cent might be approved by the Financial Secretary. A Provident Fund for teachers in Aided Schools came into effect at the beginning of 1957.

The growth of the school population chiefly affected the primary schools, where there was an increase of over 9,000 pupils. Primary education is provided by local authorities, and by Missions, Chinese school boards, and Village Committees. Local authorities have general responsibility for primary education in their areas. The schools directly managed by local authorities are mainly vernacular schools for the indigenous peoples. Other primary schools, under voluntary agencies, receive recurrent grants-in-aid through their local authority. There was a considerable extension of the local government system at the beginning of 1957 which brought nearly every part of the country under the jurisdiction of a local authority. All but three of the primary schools which had remained under central government control were handed over to local authorities in 1957. As a result of the transfer of these and some other schools, the growth of their existing schools, and the opening of new schools, the enrolment in local authority schools increased from approximately 9,000 in 1956 to over 17,000 in 1957.

Primary education is also provided by five Christian Missions operating in Sarawak. Their schools fall into three main types, the large urban schools, the central schools and the small rural schools. The large urban schools provide mainly for the Chinese population of the bazaars but also for some day pupils and boarders from the indigenous races. At these Mission schools

English is the medium of instruction. Most of them also have secondary departments. At some outstation centres, Missions have established schools whose main function is to provide a boarding education for native pupils but which also take day pupils from the neighbourhood. In village schools under Mission management, as in those under local authorities, a primary course is provided in the vernacular in the lower standards but English is taught as a subject and is used to some extent as the medium in the higher classes.

The number of native children in school increased from 21,863 in 1956 to 27,520 in 1957. This increase undoubtedly springs from a greater awareness among the Dayaks and Malays of the importance of education. A further large rise was forecast for 1958. It is doubtful whether an increased rate of expansion would be in the interests of native education, since it would only be possible to find the necessary staff for primary schools by continuing to accept as teachers candidates with too low a standard of basic education. One of the greatest needs of native education is to raise the educational level of the primary school teachers. It was found possible in 1957 to raise the minimum qualification for registration as an untrained teacher in native vernacular schools from a Primary Four certificate to a Primary Six certificate. An increasing number of applicants have now received at least a year or two of secondary education. As soon as possible the minimum qualification will be raised again.

To assist the development of native primary education, a scheme for the appointment of "Group Headmasters" was initiated in 1957. Under this scheme about five of the most promising and responsive groups of native schools will be selected and a qualified expatriate teacher will be put in charge of each. A Canadian teacher, seconded under the Colombo Plan, arrived in 1957 and was given charge of a group of Sea Dayak schools in the Saratok District of the Second Division.

The largest group of primary schools in the country consists of Chinese schools. These schools have been established by the Chinese communities and are controlled by boards of management elected annually. In the past these schools received little financial assistance from Government. Since 1956 they have been aided in the same way as schools under other voluntary

agencies or under local authorities. In these schools Kuo-yu is the medium of instruction. Although increased attention is being given to the teaching of English, the standard reached is still low.

In 1957 there were 36,728 children in aided Chinese primary schools under boards of management, and 1,359 in aided Chinese primary schools under Mission management.

Secondary education is provided in the medium of English, mainly at Mission schools, and in the medium of Kuo-yu in Chinese secondary schools. In 1957 there were 2,634 pupils in aided English secondary schools under Mission management, and 335 in Government English secondary schools. In aided secondary schools using Chinese as the medium there were 4,920 pupils.

In the English-medium secondary schools a public examination is taken at the end of the third year for the Sarawak Junior Certificate. This certificate serves as a qualification for entry to branches of the Government service and to business houses, as well as for admission to some training courses. The examination was held for the fourth time in November, 1957. Three hundred and sixty candidates from Sarawak schools were successful, compared with 233 in the previous year. The Cambridge Overseas School Certificate examination is taken in the Fifth Form. There were 173 candidates for this examination in 1957, compared with 159, of whom 113 were successful, in the previous year; the result of the 1957 examinations were not known at the time of preparation of this report. A few schools have sixth forms which in 1957 submitted thirty-two candidates, compared with twenty in the previous year, for the Cambridge Higher School Certificate examination.

Chinese-medium secondary schools, or "middle schools" provide a "junior middle" course of three years, followed by a "senior middle" course of three years. Common examinations are taken at the end of each stage. In 1957 there were 636 successful candidates for the junior middle certificate and 124 for the senior middle certificate.

Funds had been approved in 1956 for the establishment of a number of new secondary schools throughout the country, under Government management. The first of these schools, which



will be known as Tanjong Lobang School, was opened in 1957 at Miri in the Fourth Division, in temporary premises kindly made available by Sarawak Oilfields Limited. Tanjong Lobang School is intended primarily to cater for selected children from outstations and rural areas of the Fourth and Fifth Divisions for whom boarding accommodation is necessary at the secondary stage. For a few years it will be necessary to admit some native pupils who have completed only the lower primary course in village schools. Chinese pupils are admitted after completing the full primary course in Chinese-language primary schools. These children on admission to Tanjong Lobang will be given a period of intensive instruction in English. It is intended that they shall complete their education in the medium of English, while continuing to study Chinese up to the level of the junior middle standard. In the latter half of 1957 work began on the permanent buildings of the school.

Work also began on the construction of a Government secondary school situated near the 24th Mile on the Kuching-Serian road, in the First Division. This school is intended to provide boarding education for children from outstations and rural areas of the Division, as well as to admit day pupils from the population along the Kuching-Serian road.

The grounds and buildings of the former Rural Improvement School at Kanowit were handed over to the Education Department for use as a Government secondary school. Preparations were made to open the schools in 1958.

There has been in the past no organised scheme of selection for entry to secondary schools. As the only courses provided are of an academic and literary nature, many secondary pupils prove to be unfit for annual promotion and are permitted to repeat classes several times. Managements are reluctant to remove such pupils. In consequence there is a large number of over-aged pupils in secondary classes. Apart from the educational considerations involved in the lack of selection, the financial problems created by unlimited secondary education appeared likely to become formidable in the future. It was therefore decided in 1957 to classify pupils entering secondary schools, on the basis of entrance tests, as "selected" and "unselected", with a higher rate of fees for the "unselected". The latter will not be obliged to enter

for public examinations and steps will be taken in co-operation with the managements eventually to devise alternative courses for these pupils. It was hoped that such arrangements would help to avoid excessive expenditure on the secondary school system when money would be needed for the development of other branches of education, and would at the same time facilitate the introduction of alternative courses of instruction in secondary schools.

A valuable scheme of bursaries to assist pupils studying in secondary schools was instituted during the year by the Shell group of oil companies operating in the British Borneo territories. In addition, bursaries are to be offered by these companies to Sarawak children living in the remoter areas where there are no opportunities for education, to enable their parents to meet the cost of boarding at the nearest primary schools.

Another scholarship scheme was instituted by the Rt. Hon. Malcolm MacDonald, who frequently visited Sarawak during his period of office as Commissioner-General for the United Kingdom in South East Asia. Mr. MacDonald generously set up a trust fund, to be financed from the royalties on his book *Borneo People*, under which scholarships for secondary education will be granted to Iban children.

There is no university in Sarawak. Scholarships for further education and training overseas are awarded by the Government of Sarawak, and under schemes promoted by the Governments of the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, and by other organisations. Ninety-eight students were studying overseas in November 1957 with the aid of scholarships on courses lasting at least one year.

The Government of Australia, under the Colombo Plan, instituted a scheme of scholarships for courses in education open to pupils graduating from Chinese secondary schools. Special facilities will be provided in Australia to raise the standard of English of these students. The offer of these scholarships was most welcome as opportunities for further study open to students from Chinese-medium schools are otherwise very limited. Among other scholarship schemes one of particular value was the offer by the Government of New Zealand of courses for Sarawak boys in skilled trades, to be followed by training as trade instructors.

An important feature of the year was the substantial assistance given to Sarawak's educational programme by Commonwealth Governments under the Colombo Plan. Apart from the large number of scholarships awarded by the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, including several teacher-training scholarships, very valuable help was given by New Zealand in staffing the Tanjong Lobang School, as well as in making a generous grant for capital equipment. The Australian Government offered greatly welcomed help of a similar nature in connection with the 24th Mile School, and made arrangements for the secondment of a teacher-trainer at Batu Lintang. The Canadian Government provided two qualified and experienced teacher-trainers for Batu Lintang and a Group Headmaster for Dayak schools, and was exploring the possibilities of finding teachers for the Kanowit School. The assistance thus given will help to meet Sarawak's needs, during a period of rapid expansion, until qualified local staff has gained experience to take over the more responsible positions. Under the United States Educational Exchange Programme, an American lady teacher who had specialised in the teaching of English was lent to Sarawak. She gave valuable assistance at the Sibu Teacher Training Centre and in Chinese schools in Sibu.

The British Council continued to do important educational work. In conjunction with the Education Department, the Council organised a highly successful vacation course of Chinese teachers. The distribution of Teachers' Book Boxes to some 150 schools is a service much appreciated by teachers in the interior. The British Council continued to play a leading part in the administration of the scheme for the establishment of libraries at various outstations.

The adult night classes conducted in Kuching by the Sarawak Council of Adult Education continued to be popular.

An important and welcome visitor to Sarawak during 1957 was Sir Christopher Cox, K.C.M.G., Adviser on Education to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community development, a movement to promote better living for the whole community with the active participation, and, if possible, on the initiative, of the community, is

administered by an official committee of the appropriate Administrative officers and Heads of Departments.

The Rural Improvement School (Sea Dayak) at Kanowit in the Third Division was closed in April chiefly because of persistent staffing difficulties. The farm training it provided will be given by the Agriculture Department at the Tarat Agricultural Station in the Third Division.

Financial assistance for community development at Muara Tuang (Malay) on the Samarahan River in the First Division, and for the Heng Hua Fishermen's Housing Scheme, at Sungei Apong, also in the First Division, ceased.

The Budu Scheme (Sea Dayak), in the Kalaka District of the Second Division, entered its second phase by the decrease of expatriate assistants from three to one, and by the devolution of increased authority upon the local Progress Society, whose committee was recognised as a village or parish committee of the Kalaka District Council. The Progress Society, largely at its own expense, sent young people for training as future executives officers, one to Malaya, two to Kuching and seven to the United Kingdom.

An extension of the Budu Scheme to the Entabai River in the Upper Kanowit District of the Third Division began. A doctor and a mechanic joined the team. Team leaders will continue to give some attention to Budu from Entabai.

The Padawan Scheme (Land Dayak), in the *ulu*\* Sarawak of the First Division, began in January and has already effected changes in the mentality of this community. Kampong Progress Committees have built good paths and bridges, contributed materials and much labour to build a Community Development Centre into a clinic, workshop, boarding houses, classrooms, gardens and playing fields, and the Committees have in many cases re-allocated land holdings to help rubber and other crop plantings. The economic and cultural improvement of the hill Land Dayaks presents many unsolved problems. This scheme is shared with the Anglican Mission.

\* *ulu*: the upper reaches of a river.

The ulu Baram is served by a more conventional scheme, a farm-and-craft-training centre for up-country artisans. Twenty-five post-Primary-IV boys here take a two-year residential course.

Much more attention has been paid to women and girls, not only in the multi-purpose schemes but by training exclusively for women and girls at Kanowit and Kuching. Throughout the year the homecraft department of the Rural Improvement School continued, latterly under the supervision of the District Officer. An average of twenty-five longhouse girls passed out from this course after four weeks' training in the knowledge and skills useful to young housewives and mothers. This had good effects on local Dayak home-life. Twelve young country women were trained in Kuching to conduct homecraft classes in their home villages.

Community Development funds help the work of the Sarawak Council for Adult Education. There were about 1,500 students enrolled in adult education classes mostly in Kuching. Part of these funds is reserved for out-station classes. A Community Development assistant was posted temporarily to Radio Sarawak for half the year to do features on community development for broadcast programmes. He attended a World Youth Conference at Beirut as the representative of the Sarawak Youth Council.

The issue of a monthly news sheet has kept community development workers and the public informed about community development activities.

Preliminary investigations which it is hoped will lead to community development among the Melanau people were made.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

As in previous years quite the most important advance in medical and health matters was the anti-malarial work. The target had been set for the year 1957 to cover all the heavily malarial parts of Sarawak. This target was not quite reached but

exact plans were made by the end of the year to reach it and the programme was on the whole very successful. As an indication of the progress made during the year it can safely be said that 120,000 people who would have had malaria during 1957 were saved from it by the extension of the work. The Department was helped as before by three experts from the World Health Organisation, two malariologists and one entomologist, and all the other staff were provided and the expense of the project borne by the Sarawak Government. A complete reorganization of administration was made during the year and there are now three virtually independent teams operating in the First and Second, the Third and the Fourth and Fifth Divisions of Sarawak. There was a very considerable increase in the staff employed and particular mention should be made of two "Superintendents", laymen with no previous special knowledge of anti-malarial or other medical work. These men were formerly police officers in Malaya who left under the Malayanisation scheme. Special mention should also be made of two new areas not formerly reached by this work. One is the Kelabit Plateau, which was completely sprayed in January with the help of a parachute drop of DDT and other medical supplies by the Royal Air Force. A second visit was paid to this area later in the year and malaria transmission, formerly prevalent there, has now ceased. The other area not previously reached by the special anti-malaria control project was the Second Division of Sarawak, one part of which remained at the year the end only heavily infected part of the country not yet controlled.

Although there are many pitfalls ahead and it is clear that a great deal of work has still to be done there is good reason to hope that the transmission of malaria throughout Sarawak will be prevented in the next few years. Thereafter the only thing necessary will be a system of surveillance. This will be a major undertaking but not as difficult or expensive as the control project. There was a first test of surveillance in the First Division near Kuching late in the year, when an original case of malaria occurred in a village thought to be completely under control. Special teams went into action, determined the source of infection. However good control becomes in Sarawak imported cases may always occur and perhaps pass on the disease until the final aim of global eradication is achieved. A Borneo step

towards this ideal, which may not be so far distant, was the appearance for the first time, at a Borneo Inter-territorial Malaria Conference in November, of representatives from Indonesia with whom a great deal of technical information was exchanged, and arrangements were made for further co-operation with the object of eradicating malaria from the whole of Borneo.

Malaria work was not the only advance during the year. Many new buildings were completed or in the course of erection. Among these were considerable extensions to the hospital at Sibü including a new maternity ward, a new children's ward, a new first class ward, a new outpatient department and a new TB ward. In Kuching, there was the new mental hospital (not quite finished at the year's end) for over 200 patients; big extensions to the nurses' home, a new block at the General Hospital comprising a midwifery unit and an isolation ward for children, and a new maternity and child health clinic at Sekama Road. This clinic is of an entirely new design, very functional, and it will probably be copied in other parts of the country. New clinics were opened at Song in the Third Division and Sebuyau in the Second; and at Long San on the Baram in the Fourth Division the Roman Catholic Mission opened a maternity home with a Government subsidy. Improvements at the Rajah Sir Charles Brooke Memorial Settlement for the treatment of leprosy were completed. These included the provision of electric light and an improved water supply.

The scheme for the training of "ulu dressers" proved very disappointing. It was decided to hold it in abeyance and give it further consideration.

The midwife-training programme continued to be an unqualified success and at the year end there were ninety girls under training. The majority of these girls come from rural parts of the country to one of the main towns for a little over a year and there learn in a practical way the rudiments of midwifery: how to conduct a normal delivery and how to look after their patients from conception to weaning. They are taught to recognise abnormalities and to call for help when necessary. The way in which these girls learn and soon become very sensible and practical midwives is remarkable. When they return to their villages and longhouses some of them go back to normal lives,

but their services are available; and many are employed as midwives by the local authorities which have in some cases established special clinics.

The training of nurses, male and female, and other medical staff, such as laboratory technicians and dispensers, continued in Sibu and Kuching. The syllabus and curriculum of training have been designed to conform as far as possible with the training of nurses in the United Kingdom, in the hope of one day achieving reciprocity of registration. Very close contact was maintained with the other British countries of Borneo and also with the oil companies (with their own hospitals and nurses' training schools) to maintain as far as possible uniformity; and examiners for the nurses' examinations were exchanged. Nurses trained by Sarawak Oilfields Limited, who passed examinations conducted by the joint examiners, were given Sarawak Government certificates. Medical training on a considerable scale outside Sarawak continued as the following table shows.

<i>Nature of Training</i>	<i>Place of Training</i>	<i>Number of Students</i>
General Nursing	United Kingdom	5
Dental Nursing	New Zealand	1
Psychiatric Nursing	New Zealand	1
Radiography	United Kingdom	2
Public Health Inspector	United Kingdom	1
	New Zealand	4
Public Health Engineering	Australia	1
Medicine	Singapore	5
	Australia	3
Dentistry	Singapore	1
Dental Mechanic	Malaya	4
Pharmacy	Singapore	3



General inter-territorial liaison in Borneo was maintained and there were frequent exchanges of visits by senior officers. Sarawak agreed to adopt the North Borneo rules for the importation of domestic animals.

With the conquest of malaria in sight two other major problems engaged attention: environmental sanitation (especially rural), and tuberculosis. One of the first essentials of public health is a pure water supply. This has been largely achieved in the main centres of Sarawak but there remains much to be done in rural areas. Money was made available and experiments were conducted to find a cheap and simple means of providing pure water for small communities. Instruction was obtained from two United Kingdom engineering firms specialising in the provision of small water supplies and from both equipment was ordered. Great success was achieved in some places but in others difficulties were encountered; the mechanical installations were normally successfully simple but there were difficulties in administration and in maintenance of the pumps. When accommodation was required for the malaria teams in the Third Division a model longhouse was built at Nanga Balleh.

It will be some time before an effort can be made to eradicate tuberculosis, but something is being done. Tuberculosis in Sarawak is more a social than an infectious disease and though much can be done for cases by treatment a total war against the disease must be conducted as much by a general improvement of living conditions as by doctors and nurses. Considerable progress was made with the purely medical aspects of the problem.

In Kuching a convalescent home for thirty-six patients was built, by the Anti-Tuberculosis Association of Sarawak, to take patients between the completion of active treatment and their return to ordinary life. This should in some measure relieve the pressure on hospital beds, but it may never be possible to put all cases in hospital and efforts have therefore been concentrated on home treatment. For this purpose a medical officer was sent

to Hong Kong to study the special method of ambulatory treatment in use there. The main emphasis in treatment was to maintain chemotherapy for at least two years of continuous treatment in various combinations of drugs. This outpatient treatment was continued from rural dispensaries after patients returned to their home villages. After an interval of three or six months they would return for an X-ray check.

A complete survey was made of the members of the Sarawak Constabulary and their families. All police staff and their families living in the same quarters were X-rayed by mass radiography and all doubtful or positive cases were recalled for a large film and further investigations. A total of 646 persons were X-rayed under this scheme and six were discovered positive.

Pupils from nearly all the schools in and around Kuching were X-rayed and in certain schools nearly all pupils showed healed primary lesions. The ruling by Government, that all teachers in Aided Schools should be X-rayed and that teachers suffering from tuberculosis could have prolonged sick leave on full pay, resulted in the discovery of twenty-one active cases of tuberculosis amongst 831 teachers. Of 1,800 school children X-rayed nine were discovered with active disease. This Prisons Department staff and families were also examined by X-rays and of 121 examinations eight were positive.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Association of Sarawak, a voluntary body, is very active in many parts of the country and is supported by voluntary contributions and by donations from the Social Welfare Council. ATAS is especially active in the Fourth Division, where, at Miri, there is a tuberculosis hospital of about fifty beds and where a decision was taken to establish tuberculosis convalescent homes in the form of Dayak longhouses at Marudi and Bintulu. This venture will be helped by donations from the ATAS central fund.

There is a good Government Dental Department with four fully qualified dentists. They operate principally in the big

outpatient Health Centre in Kuching and at the hospital at Sibü, and also travel from time to time. There is only one fully qualified dentist in private practice, but a very large number of unqualified registered dentists. For many years there have been many unqualified and unregistered dentists practising dentistry against the law, nearly all relatives or close associates of existing registered dentists and helping them in their practices. Legislation was introduced to rectify this and examinations of the unregistered dentists were held.

Two diseases of epidemiological importance are endemic goitre and yaws. There is much iodine-deficiency goitre in the interior especially of the Second and Third Divisions. Near the coast where people get sea-food the disease is absent and in certain parts of the interior, notably the Kelabit area of the Fourth Division, there are salt springs rich in iodine. The salt commonly used is cheap coarse salt originating from Red Sea ports and from Siam. It is produced from sea water by processes of fractional crystallisation and is deficient in iodine. The possibility was considered but discarded of insisting that all imported salt should contain a minimum quantity of iodine but it was decided instead to instal machinery for the iodisation of imported salt.

Mass campaigns in limited geographical areas against yaws have continued. A campaign carried out in the Second Division in July and August is a good example. Two senior medical auxiliaries did a walk lasting nearly three weeks and gave over 2,400 injections of penicillin aluminium monostearate to 2,417 people. The method used when yaws is found in such difficult country is to inject the whole population with a curative dose of penicillin. Communities that received this mass treatment several years ago have been examined and the disease has not returned.

#### SOCIAL WELFARE

The year 1957 saw the almost complete centralisation of control of Government welfare funds, totalling \$274,456.04, in the

Social Welfare Council, a voluntary organisation made up of leading welfare representatives from all over the country, designed to guide welfare policy in consultation with Government, and to allocate funds. All organisations have direct access to the Council to which needs are submitted each year. Allocations in accordance with changing conditions and emphasis are made at each monthly meeting.

This centralisation has not affected voluntary work in other parts of the country, and indeed there has been a considerable growth in interest.

Most of the welfare work is undertaken by voluntary agencies. There are more than twenty local relief committees at central points in rural areas, with the right to send a delegate member with full voting powers to meeting of the Council to represent local wishes. Each area administers, in accordance with its own needs and with broad guidance from the Council, both locally raised funds and funds granted by the Council.

Voluntary welfare work is also done by the British Red Cross Society, the Anti-Tuberculosis Association of Sarawak, the Missions, the Scouts and Guides, the Sarawak Youth Council and the Prisoners' Aid Society, all of whom receive grants from the Social Welfare Council.

Plans were approved for a new girls' home to house eighty girls; and a new boys' hostel was bought. These were two important events of the year. A grant of \$10,000 was given by the Council for reconditioning this hostel, which has two acres of grounds. Both institutions in their old quarters received support from the Council, amounting to \$22,000 and \$13,000 respectively.

Blind welfare was a focus of attention, beginning with the visit in January of Miss Spencer-Wilkinson, the Adviser to the

Government of Singapore on the Welfare of the Blind. A register of the blind was begun and this will, on analysis, provide a background for planning and casework. A circular on welfare for the blind in three languages was widely distributed, to inform the public of the voluntary help all may give, and this was followed by educational films from England and Singapore. Four children are now being educated overseas, and they return once a year to their own communities. The blind class organised by the Kuching Division of the Red Cross Society teaches basket, net, and mat-making once a week and is a centre for much casework.

Five orthopaedic patients from various parts of the country have been sent abroad for rehabilitation and one deaf mute child is maintained at a school for the deaf.

Voluntary youth service has been active during the year and most of the agencies receive a grant from the Council. The Sarawak Youth Council sent members to the Seminar of the Hong Kong Standing Conference of Youth Organisations, the World Rural Youth Conference in the Lebanon, and to youth leaders' courses in Singapore. The Kuching Youth Club gave instruction in crafts and youth service teams visited rural areas and gave a lead to the youth of the kampongs. The Scouts attended the Jubilee Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield and Sarawak shares with Brunei and North Borneo the services of an Organising Commissioner of Scouts.

The Sibü Benevolent Society, which maintains two institutions housing forty-five convalescent patients and forty-six old people respectively, received a grant of \$27,200. Large sums were raised, as in the past, by this Society for local welfare work. The British Red Cross Society received a grant of \$34,130 towards their very varied community work which includes the upkeep of the Transit Hostel in Kuching, with thirty beds available to all country people visiting the capital for medical reasons. This Society raises large local funds and is the centre of many kinds of voluntary welfare.

The first buildings  
of the new Teacher  
Training College  
for Chinese  
Students, at Sibui,  
the Headquarters  
of the Third  
Division



(Lim Poh Chiang)



Quadruplets born on 22nd August, 1957, to Nain anak Suwait and Rubis anak Nyian, a Land Dayak couple, in the General Hospital, Kuching. Their mother is seated. The photograph was taken on the day after the children were born. They are progressing well

(G.S.I.S.)



The Council granted relief of \$19,634.28, mainly in the form of food parcels. Grants were made for the upkeep of orphans and the aged in Mission care, and the Home for the Aged near Kuching received \$60,000, the annual sum formerly administered by the Government and now by the Council. Country relief committees received \$12,500 and were very active in self-help.

In Kuching the raising of funds for organisations went on. Though many welfare activities are centred in the capital, many services are offered to the whole country. Projects started in Kuching set the example for work outside the capital.

One item unlikely to be annually recurrent was the birth of quadruplets (see illustration opposite). To the family of these babies the Council and Red Cross gave much help.

Self-help continues to be the strongest influence in the country's welfare work and there is a growing awareness of how very varied the field can be, and how much of interest it offers to volunteers.



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## LEGISLATION

### *Laws of the Colony*

**T**HE Ordinances and subsidiary legislation in force prior to 2nd July, 1947, are in the Revised Edition of the Laws of Sarawak (six volumes).

The legislation enacted between July, 1947 and December, 1952 are in the Annual Supplements prepared under the Revised Edition of the Laws (Annual Supplements) Ordinance, 1947, together with the Imperial Statutes, Imperial Orders in Council, Royal Proclamations and Instructions applicable to Sarawak.

The compilation of the Annual Supplements was suspended upon the coming into force of the Written Law (Simplified Publication) Ordinance, 1953, in that year, and the *Sarawak Government Gazette* was divided into parts as follows:—

#### *Part I* Ordinances.

- Part II*
- (a) All subsidiary legislation other than that published in Part IV;
  - (b) Acts of Parliament, Orders in Council and enactments made thereunder applicable to Sarawak or published for public information;
  - (c) Treaties or Conventions affecting Sarawak or published for public information;
  - (d) Letters Patent;
  - (e) Royal Instructions;
  - (f) Royal Warrants and Proclamations; and

- (g) Such Instructions of the Governor as the Chief Secretary may direct to be published in this Part.

*Part III* Bills to be introduced into Council Negri.

*Part IV* All subsidiary legislation under the Municipal Ordinance, the Kuching Municipal Ordinance, 1952, the Local Authority Ordinance, 1948, and the Local Government Election Ordinance, 1956.

*Part V* All other matters required to be published in the *Gazette* or published therein for public information.

These Parts are bound separately at the end of the each year, and were introduced when the Annual Supplements were abolished.

### *Legislation in 1957*

Thirty-eight Ordinances were enacted. Twenty-three were amending Ordinances and of the others, five were new, eight were consolidating and repealing Ordinances and two were supply.

The following merit comment—

### NEW ORDINANCES

The following are the Principal Enactments:

#### *Trustees (Sarawak Government Securities) Ordinance, 1957*

To make it permissible for trustees in the United Kingdom to invest in Sarawak Government securities.

#### *Pioneer Industries (Encouragement) Ordinance, 1957*

To encourage the establishment and development of new industries in Sarawak and to provide for the granting of relief from Customs Duty and Income Tax to persons establishing factories in connexion with such industries.

*Development Finance Corporation Ordinance, 1957*

To provide for the establishment of the Sarawak Development Finance Corporation to promote economic development by granting financial credits.

*Local Loans Ordinance, 1957*

To empower the Financial Secretary to raise loans in Sarawak of such amount and for such purposes as Council Negri may authorize.

*Loan Ordinance, 1957*

To provide for the raising of a loan of \$26,000,000 to finance schemes in the Revised Sarawak Development Plan for 1955-60.

## CONSOLIDATING AND REPEAL ORDINANCES

*Land Code, 1957*

This Ordinance repeals and replaces the Land Ordinance, the Land Settlement Ordinance, the Land (Classification) Ordinance, 1948 and the Dealings in Land (Validation) Ordinance, 1952, and all rules made thereunder and brings up to date the land laws of Sarawak.

*Telecommunications Ordinance, 1957*

This repeals the Ordinances relating to Telegraphs and Telephones and makes more modern and comprehensive provisions for telegraphy and telephony including radio-telegraphy and radio-telephony.

*Societies Ordinance, 1957*

This repeals and replaces the Societies Ordinance, 1947 and makes more comprehensive provision regarding societies. It compels registration of all societies including existing ones.

*Miscellaneous Licences Ordinance, 1957*

This repeals the following Ordinances and provides for their replacement by regulations made under the Ordinance: Plants Protection Ordinance, Corpses Ordinance, Auctioneers and

Appraisers Ordinance, Pepper Dealers and Planters Ordinance, Monopolies Ordinance, Part II of Lotteries and Subscriptions Ordinance, Printing Presses Ordinance, Printers and Publishers Ordinance, Cattle (Control) Ordinance, and Hypodermic Syringes (Control) Ordinance.

*Wild Life Protection Ordinance, 1957*

This repeals the Game Ordinance, long felt to be inadequate for the protection and control of wild animals. The main innovation is provision for the constitution of wild life sanctuaries.

*Turtle Trust Ordinance, 1957*

This repeals the Turtle Trust Ordinance, remedies certain defects and sanctions certain acts of the Board and the trustees done in good faith which might be described as "beneficial breaches of trust". The Turtle Trust and its Board of Management have been reconstituted and better provision is made for the administration and control of the turtle industry. The rather involved affairs of the Board and the Trust were straightened out by an Agreement, executed between the Government, the Board and the Trustees before this Ordinance was enacted.

*Jubilee Recreation Ground Fund (Repeal) Ordinance, 1957*

This repeals the Jubilee Recreation Ground Fund Ordinance (Cap. 122) and makes provision permitting the transfer of part the fund's property to the Kuching Municipal Council and has enabled the Government to rectify the position regarding the Sarawak Turf Club.

*Sea Fishing and Kilongs Ordinance, 1957*

This repeals the Fishing Conservancy Ordinance and provides for the more efficient control of sea fishing, including all sea fish and shell-fish within Sarawak waters. It controls *kilongs* erected in Sarawak waters and on the continental shelf lying within the boundaries of Sarawak, and the disposal of sea fish caught within Sarawak waters or by means of such *kilongs*.

## AMENDING ORDINANCES

*Revised Edition of the Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957*

This amends the Principal Ordinance in the following respects:—

- (a) it ensures that the Commissioners have power to insert a rule-making power in an Ordinance;
- (b) it clarifies the powers of the Commissioners in the preparation of the Revised Edition;
- (c) it provides that the Written Law (Simplified Publication) Ordinance, 1953, shall continue to have effect; and
- (d) it corrects minor errors.

*Local Authority (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957**Local Authority (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 1957**Local Authority (Amendment) (No. 3) Ordinance, 1957*

These amend the Local Authority Ordinance 1948 in a variety of ways.

*Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957*

This Ordinance amends the Principal Ordinance in several respects.

*Penal Code Revision Ordinance, 1957*

This Ordinance amends the penalties in the Penal Code in accordance with the policy of standardising penalties, referred to in the comments on the Penalties (Revision) Ordinance, 1957 below.

*Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957*

This Ordinance contains a number of amendments to bring the Code up to date.

*Immigration (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957**Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 1957*

These amend the Immigration Ordinance, 1952 as follows:—

- (a) by making it possible for the Controller to declare at any time up to two years after the date of arrival of any person in Sarawak that his presence is unlawful, where it is found that he obtained his permit by misrepresentation, or that he is a prohibited immigrant;
- (b) by providing that persons possessing another nationality in addition to that of a British subject will not be entitled to re-enter Sarawak without a permit if they have previously left Sarawak without valid travel documents or if they seek to return to Sarawak after their travel documents have ceased to be valid or after a visit to countries for which such documents were not valid.

*Majlis Islam (Incorporation) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957*

This amends the Principal Ordinance by—

- (a) making the Majlis responsible for the arrangements with regard to the Pilgrimage to Mecca;
- (b) making more convenient provision for the Chairmanship of the Legal Committee in the absence of the Datu Hakim.

*Penalties (Revision) Ordinance, 1957*

The object of this Ordinance is to standardize the penalties provided throughout the Sarawak Ordinances except for certain Ordinances which are dealt with separately or which are under revision.

*Charitable Trusts (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957*

This amends the Principal Ordinance to provide for the appointment of two instead of only one Government Officer to a Board appointed under the Ordinance to administer and manage a charitable trust. It was considered desirable that the Secretary for Local Government and the Director of Education should both be Trustees of the charitable trust created in respect of the MacDonald Iban Scholarship (v.p. 69).

*Trades Licensing (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957*

This amends the Principal Ordinance to prevent the avoidance of payment of income tax or trade licensing fees on imports and exports.

*Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957*

This amends the Schedule to the Principal Ordinance in respect of certain stamp duties.

*Revised Edition of the Laws*

Work on the revision of the laws continued in 1957. Printing of the Reprint Volumes of Imperial Legislation, etc., is nearly done. Some delay in the revision of the laws was caused by the retirement and death of the Attorney-General, Mr. G. E. Strickland, Q.C., who was one of the original Law Revision Commissioners.

General Sir Francis  
Festing, K.C.B.,  
K.B.E., D.S.O., Com-  
mander-in-Chief,  
Far East Land  
Forces, visiting the  
Headquarters of  
the Field Force  
of the Sarawak  
Constabulary  
at Bukit Siol, in  
the First Division







# XI

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## LAW AND ORDER

### JUSTICE

#### *The Supreme Court*

**A** PART from Imperial legislation, whether by Order in Council or otherwise, the law of Sarawak is found mainly in local ordinances and native customary law. Chinese customary law, chiefly in matrimonial matters and inheritance, is recognised only as far as such recognition is expressly or by implication found in a local ordinance.

Where Sarawak law is silent, the Courts apply the common law of England and the doctrines of equity, with English statutes to the extent permitted by the Application of Laws Ordinance, 1949, and subject to the qualifications of local circumstances and native custom.

There is a Supreme Court of Judicature, consisting of a High Court and a Court of Appeal, for Sarawak, North Borneo and Brunei.

One hundred and forty-eight criminal cases and 379 civil actions were heard in the High Court compared with 172 criminal cases and 371 civil actions in 1956. In the Court of Appeal four criminal appeals and sixteen civil appeals were heard, against five criminal appeals and thirteen civil appeals in 1956.

#### *The Lower Courts*

The courts presided over by magistrates are the District Court (Civil and Criminal); the Court of small Causes (Civil); the Police Court (Criminal). Legally qualified magistrates sit at Kuching and Sibü and the remainder are administrative officers doing magisterial work as part of their duties. Of the Sarawak Government officers mentioned last year who are in legal training in England, one has passed his Bar final examination and completed a year's reading in chambers and another is pursuing legal studies in Australia under a Colombo Plan Scholarship.

In the exercise of civil jurisdiction Courts of Magistrates have jurisdiction in every civil matter of which the value in dispute does not exceed (in the case of the Magistrates of the First Class) \$500 or (where the Chief Justice confers upon a magistrate special jurisdiction) then in a Court presided over by such magistrate, \$1,000. Magistrates of the Second Class have jurisdiction where the value in dispute does not exceed \$250; and Magistrates of the Third Class, fifty dollars. Courts of Magistrates have no jurisdiction in proceedings in connection with application for partition of immovable property; the specific performance or rescission of contracts; the cancellation or rectification of instruments; the enforcement of trusts; and applications for declaratory decrees. The powers of the Courts Magistrates in criminal jurisdiction are as provided in the Criminal Procedure Code.

Apart from the Courts above mentioned there are the Native Courts constituted under the Native Courts Ordinance, as repealed and superseded by the Native Courts Ordinance, 1955. These Courts are the District Native Court, the Native Officer's or Chief's Court, and the Headman's Court. An appeal lies from the Headman's Court to the Native Officer's or Chief's Court, and from the latter to the District Native Court and then to the Resident's Native Court. A further appeal may be made to the Native Court of Appeal by way of a case stated on a point of law or native custom. As a general rule the Native Courts are competent to try only cases in which all the parties are natives, including cases arising from the breach of native law and custom, civil cases where the value of the subject-matter does not exceed fifty dollars, and claims to untitled land.

Figures of cases tried in the lower Courts in 1957 and 1956 show little change. Crime remains low.

#### *Probate and Administration*

The Registrar administered fifteen deceased persons' estates compared with one in 1956. Six grants of probate and fifty-nine Letters of Administration were issued. Two resealings of grants of probate issued elsewhere in the British Empire were affected.

Outside Kuching deceased persons' estates were dealt with by Probate Officers under section 2 of the Administration of Estates Ordinance.

*Lunatic Person's Estates*

As Official Assignee, the Registrar administered three lunatic persons' estates. All are Chinese.

*Bankruptcy*

Seven bankruptcy petitions all lodged by creditors were dealt with.

In 1956 creditors tended to rely on the High Court (Execution Proceedings) Rules to obtain payments from their debtors, but in 1957 they seemed more inclined to resort to bankruptcy proceedings. Of the six bankrupts, two were discharged upon the debtors compromising with the creditors.

*Deeds and Bills of Sales*

A total of 1,321 documents were registered under the Registration of Deeds Ordinance. The majority of these were hire purchase agreements, powers of attorney, and other agreements. Seventy-seven bills of sale were registered under the provisions of the Bills of Sale Ordinance.

*Business Names and Limited Companies*

Twenty-two partnership businesses were registered. Most of them were dealers in general merchandise and groceries. Sixteen locally incorporated and eleven foreign limited liability companies were registered under the Companies Ordinance, 1956. Most of these are traders in general merchandise and insurance companies.

A comprehensive Companies Ordinance came into force at the beginning of the year. It lays down detailed provisions, and replaces the Companies Ordinance which dealt with companies in the broadest of terms only.

*Patents and Trade Marks*

Three grants of "Exclusive Privileges" were issued, all for United Kingdom patents.

One hundred and twenty-nine trade marks were registered. There were no renewals of registration.

### *Trusts*

The Registrar administers fourteen trust estates entrusted to him by orders of the Courts and one trust estate created by the Will of a deceased person.

### *Court Fees, Fines, Forfeitures and Deposits*

The volume of transactions under this heading has increased considerably. The revenue collected during the year amounted to \$51,248.42 as compared with \$182,797.44 in 1956, and \$45,871.07 in 1955.

### *Money Lenders*

There were eighteen money lenders on the Register. Five money lenders licences were cancelled.

### PROBATION — KUCHING

Forty-two Court cases were referred to the Probation Section for the investigation of their home conditions. Of these, eighteen, including two adults, were found suitable for probation, twelve, one of whom was a girl of thirteen, were bound over to be of good conduct for periods varying from six months to a year, one was discharged with a caution, and six juveniles, of whom two were probationers and the other four had previous convictions, were committed to the Sarawak Boys' Home (v.p. 101). The rest, being adult offenders, were given prison sentences for periods ranging from four months to three years. One of them was a girl of twenty-one who was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment in default of payment of court fines of \$2,017 for offences under the Excise Ordinance. One offender with fourteen previous convictions was given three years' imprisonment.

Eighteen cases were brought forward for supervision from 1956. Fourteen boys satisfactorily completed their period of probation but four boys were committed to the Boys' Home. Thus eighteen probationers remained under supervision. Of these, six were at school, eight working, and the rest either helping or staying at home. Four of the eight working boys attended evening Adult Council classes.

### *Miscellaneous Cases*

The Probation Section continued to be consulted by the parents of refractory children and school truants and others with

problems. Thirty cases, the majority involving boys beyond parental control, were dealt with.

The Acting Probation Officer made regular visits to the prisoners (at present numbering four) held in Kuching Prison during the pleasure of the Governor and submitted reports to the Superintendent of Prisons.

### *Welfare Relief*

From 10th July, 1957, the Probation Section ceased to dispense food parcels and cash relief on behalf of the Social Welfare Council. The work was taken over by a member of the Social Welfare Council.

### *Staff*

In January, the Probation Officer's assistant returned from Singapore after a six months' training course in probation and the management of hostel work with the Singapore Department of Social Welfare.

The Probation Officer left Kuching in August for a year's study in Social Science in the United Kingdom.

## SIBU

### *General Review*

Twenty-seven cases were referred to the Assistant Probation Officer, SibU, by courts, police, welfare agencies, and parents, and eighteen hostel cases came under his care.

### *Probation Cases*

Eleven cases—three adult and eight juvenile—were referred to the Assistant Probation Officer, SibU.

Five boys completed their probation periods satisfactorily. One adult probationer was committed to prison for a breach of probation and five remain under supervision.

Home visits in the Division now cover a large area in SibU, Binatang, Sarikei, and Kanowit, and this after-care has great value, both in establishing and maintaining a good relationship between the officer and the boys and in enabling the officer to observe and assess the degree of success or failure.

## CONSTABULARY

The year 1957 was another peaceful one for the Sarawak Constabulary. Problems of increasing crime, traffic control and the like were not particularly severe and the Divisions have not been subjected to undue strain. The Force has advanced still further along the road towards professional efficiency, but is handicapped in particular by public apathy in reporting crime and by an insufficient number of Chinese police officers in the rank and file.

*Strength and Distribution*

On the 31st December, 1957 the strength of the Force was thirty-four Gazetted Officers, seventy-eight Inspectors, and 1,345 Other Ranks. Deficiencies on the authorised establishment were, therefore, four Gazetted Officers and three Inspectors. Shortage of Gazetted Officers has been severely felt and it is hoped that the vacancies which have been long outstanding will soon be filled.

*Casualties*

Casualties totalled 174, as against 225 last year. Twenty-three men were dismissed, 109 resigned, nine were discharged on medical grounds, and twenty-five retired on pension. There were three deaths.

The Force has still too high a casualty rate. The resignation rate, although excessive, is not as bad as appears at first sight because fifty men out of a total of 109 resigned under training. It is distressing however to see the irresponsible way in which young men throw away their chance of a good career in the Force; the annual total is, however, decreasing steadily. Casualty figures for the last three years are indicative: In 1955, 309; in 1956, 225; and 1957, 174. There is now every reason to hope that rising standards of education and improved conditions of service will reduce annual losses to reasonable proportions.

*Recruitment*

There has been a great improvement in the standard of recruit now joining the Force. Out of 220 men recruited in 1957, only sixty were illiterate. A small proportion have suitable educational qualifications for entry into the Inspectorate and it is now possible to insist that all candidates for the Inspectorate

must start off as recruits in the rank and file. This is a most welcome change; there were however only five Chinese recruits under training at the end of 1957. Plenty of young Chinese men are anxious to join the Inspectorate as direct entries, but very few of them are prepared to go through the ranks.

### *Training and Education*

One Chief Inspector completed a course of training in England and was promoted to Assistant Superintendent on his return to Sarawak. Two other Inspectors left for training in the United Kingdom. Eight Probationary Inspectors were still under training in Malaya and Singapore at the end of the year. The Force has always depended upon the Federation of Malaya and Singapore Police Forces for Inspectorate training facilities. There is every likelihood that this arrangement will continue, but there has been a sharp decrease in the number of vacancies available. Advanced educational training for the rank and file has been started at the Police Training School with a class of Commissioner's Cadets. This scheme is designed to produce an adequate supply of qualified candidates for the Inspectorate. Study of English is also on the increase throughout the Force. Two hundred and sixty-nine men have passed Primary IV or Primary VI Examinations. Voluntary Night Classes are in progress in all Divisions and many of the younger members of the Rank and File show commendable keenness to improve themselves.

### *Health*

Health remained good. Seven men were found to be suffering from tuberculosis. One hundred and twenty men were admitted to hospital and 3,522 police cases were treated at the Dispensaries.

### *Welfare*

Improved welfare facilities have been provided in all Divisions. A number of concrete badminton courts have been laid and have proved most popular. Billiard tables of varying sizes have also been installed in the bigger Stations.

### *Building*

The building programme is unfortunately behind schedule, and some buildings which were planned for completion in 1957 have not been started. Married quarters in Kuching are short and it is hoped that better progress can be made in 1958.



### *Field Force*

The five Platoons of the Field Force had a busy year. Long distance patrols were operated in many remote areas of the country and assistance was also rendered to the Brunei Police. Morale is high and standards of efficiency general excellent. Two Field Force Reserve Camps were held for ex-Rangers from the Second and Third Divisions. These men represent a substantial reserve of trained manpower in time of emergency, and show great keenness under training at their annual camps.

### *Marine Branch*

Marine Branch operations were marred by a serious accident to the *Margherita* which went aground in Brunei Bay. The aluminium speedboat has been re-engined with most satisfactory results. This craft should now give good service on the Rejang. Several patrol sampans were fitted with in-board diesel engines which are more economical to operate than outboard engines.

### *Radio Branch*

Police radio equipment has functioned well. A new aerial system in Kuching and new transmitters have effected substantial improvements to the network. Communications with Brunei were still bad and all radio traffic was passed through Divisional Headquarters in Miri. Mobile VHF equipment was installed in Sibu.

### *Transport*

Most police vehicles gave good service. Land Rovers are now unnecessary in most Divisions and are being replaced by light Bedford personnel carriers fitted with radio. Operational difficulties in the Miri area were still intense—sand roads and salt water corrosion, and the lack of fresh water for washing down causing great damage to vehicle bodies.

### *Band*

The Band had a successful year under the able direction of Mr. G. R. K. Freeth, Director of Music. Public performances were given on numerous occasions. One event of local Police importance was the official adoption of the Sarawak Constabulary March—*The Baton*—composed by Mr. Freeth.

The new Municipal  
Fire Station at  
Padungan, Kuching



(Jara'ee Ditok)

Two of the new  
blocks of Municipal  
flats, seven  
storeys high, built  
by the Kuching  
Council in Central  
Road, Kuching



(G.S.I.S.)

### *Auxiliary Constabulary*

Auxiliary Constabulary Units were maintained in Kuching, Sibü and Miri. The Kuching Platoon, in particular, showed commendable enthusiasm and increased in strength. The Oilfields Security Force in Miri continued in operation.

### *Police Training School*

The Police Training School had a busy and successful year. In addition to Sarawak training commitments, the school had ninety-one Brunei recruits in the school at the end of 1957. Mention has been made elsewhere of the new advanced Training Class and of the improved standard of Rank and File Recruit now offering for enlistment. The disappearance of illiteracy will enable the Commandant to extend advanced training to wider numbers of men. Organised games continued on a wider scale and all recruits participated in rugger or soccer, hockey, badminton, basketball, volley-ball or boxing.

### *Special Branch*

Divisional Special Branch Units were improved and consolidated.

### *Crime*

Crime figures were still low, although the total number of cases reported to the Police in 1957 increased by twenty-four per cent over 1956. Assaults rose from 524 to 1,048. This significant increase may be due either to a growing and welcome tendency to report such matters to the Police, or to the continuing activities of "teddy boy" gangs. The increase in reported thefts from 869 to 1,133 may also be due to the same causes, although reduced rubber and pepper prices may have had some affect. Forty out of the fifty-one juvenile offenders brought before the courts were charged with stealing. Intensified police action against illegal immigration resulted in 1,446 cases, as compared with 704 in 1956. Sarawak can still congratulate itself on its law-abiding community, but there is a slow but steady increase in crime which must be resisted. Greater co-operation by members of the public, strict control over children and improved police efficiency are vital to effective counter-action.

*Traffic*

Traffic congestion in most main Sarawak towns continued to be a serious problem. The legislation enacted in 1956 provided a greater measure of control, but general conditions on the roads were far from satisfactory. The number of licensed motor vehicles in the First Division increased by 310 in 1957, making a total of 2,692. Bad driving and careless bicycle riding were the main reasons for the excessive number of traffic accidents. There were twelve fatal accidents against seven in 1956. Thirty-nine were seriously injured and 147 slightly injured. The number of licensed drivers and vehicles increased again and there will be a corresponding deterioration in road safety unless drivers of all classes use the roads with greater care and caution.

*Registration of Aliens*

A number of aliens liable for re-registration under the new Ordinance were re-registered. The total number of aliens newly registered and re-registered, by nationalities, is as follows:—

<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Newly Registered</i>	<i>Re-Registered</i>
American	9	—
German	1	—
Chinese	348	117
Dutch	6	2
Indonesian	170	6
Filipino	2	—
Japanese	18	—
Burmese	1	—
Arabian	1	—

During 1957, 298 aliens died or left the country; 1,474 aliens were on the register at the end of 1957.

## PRISONS

The prison staff on 31st December, 1957, was one superintendent, one assistant superintendent, four gaolers, fifty-six warders of all grades and three female warders; this was six below approved strength.

*Prison Population*

Two hundred and five male prisoners and six female prisoners were committed in 1957.

*Recidivism*

There were fourteen known recidivists among the 114 prisoners serving sentences at the end of 1957. For the year the number was thirty.

*Prison for Women*

The daily average of women prisoners was 1.83. They were mainly employed in basket making.

*Open Prison—Pending Farm*

A monthly average of sixteen selected first offenders were housed at Pending Farm, where they were employed in gardening and planting vegetables. The farm is about four miles from the Central Prison. A daily average of eighty-eight katis of vegetables were produced on the farm.

*Spiritual Welfare and Education*

Prisoners who are members of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches attended Sunday services in the Prison Chapel, and also attended religious instruction given by their respective ministers. Muslim prisoners attend the Mosque on Fridays under the supervision of warders, and religious instruction given regularly by the Iman sent by the Majlis Islam.

Evening classes at which selected prisoners are taught to read and write Romanised Malay were held three times a week.

*Library and Organised Games*

Though there are very few literate prisoners, the library, where reading matter in English, Chinese, Malay and Iban are provided, was very popular. Most of the books and periodicals were provided regularly by the Red Cross Society. Games of badminton, table tennis, chess and draughts are very popular. Prisoners are permitted to make their own guitars, violins and ukuleles during their spare time on Saturdays in the prison workshop. Radio reception is available between 6 and 9 p.m. daily, and Radio Sarawak is the favourite station. The fortnightly

cinema shows given by the Information Service in Kuching Prison were well attended. Kuching prisoners played football on Friday evenings at the Sarawak Boys' Home football ground at Pending. It was not unusual to find fifteen to sixteen players playing on each side, and their behaviour during the games was excellent.

### *Health and Diet*

Health was good, and there was no serious illness. All minor cases were treated in the small five-bed hospital at Kuching Prison.

### *Labour*

The following trade parties continued: basket making and reseatng of chairs, glass making, blacksmithing, carpentering (furniture and house building), laundry, tailoring, vegetable planting. Four holiday bungalows were built by prisoners at Santubong—a seaside resort about sixteen miles from Kuching, and parties were also employed in felling trees near Kuching airfield and in work on Government compounds.

### *Visits*

The Board of Visitors paid regular visits to the prison and reported favourably on the compound and prison buildings, and on the treatment of prisoners. Mr. F. James, the Chairman of the Prisoners' Aid Society, visited Kuching Prison every month and interviewed prisoners before their release. Money and clothing were given to them and their dependents where necessary.

### *Escapes*

Four prisoners escaped, two from Kuching, one from Sibü and one from the Open Prison at Santubong. Only the last has not been recaptured.

### *Execution*

There were no executions.

### *Remission*

Remission of one-fourth of a sentence is granted to male and female prisoners with a sentence exceeding one month.

*Revenue*

The value of articles made by the prison industries was \$42,259.75 compared with \$70,208.60 for 1956. This excludes the four Santubong Bungalows built entirely by prisoners at a cost of about \$29,000.00.

*SARAWAK BOYS' HOME*

The Home was established in 1948 in a temporary kajang building on the Pending Road near Kuching under the control and administration of the Superintendent of Prisons assisted by three officers.

In August, 1948, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Social Welfare, control and administration of the Home was transferred to the Director of Education. In November, 1951, control was returned to the Superintendent of Prisons.

The Home has a generating plant supplying lighting to the buildings, a football field, badminton court, basketball ground, and a large area suitable for agriculture. At the end of 1957 there were twenty boys in the Home, they were aged from eleven to nineteen. Discipline in the Home was good and there were no serious breaches of discipline.

*Religious Instruction*

A Muslim religious class is conducted four nights a week by one of the Home officers and the boys attend the services at the Mosque every Friday. On 6th October, 1957, all the Malay boys in the company of the Malay teacher and Malay Home Officers participated in the celebration of the Prophet Mohammed's Birthday. Church attendances on Sundays and other Church festivals were arranged for the Christian boys.

*Health*

Health was good. The Home is regularly visited by a Medical Officer.

*Home Activities*

The Information Service cinema unit gave monthly cinema shows at the Home and the boys were also permitted to attend



local cinemas without charge. This generosity by the Cathay Cinema and Mr. William Tan, owner of the Odeon Cinema, is very much appreciated.

The Christmas Party was held at the Home on 21st December, 1957, and attended by His Excellency the Governor. There was a concert and an exhibition of handicrafts produced by the boys was also held. Christmas gifts were made to the children of the Girls' Home who attended the party and to the children of the Staff of the Home.

### *Occupation*

Boys were taught basket making, carpentry, fruit growing, pepper, coffee, vegetable and poultry farming, and in their leisure, model making. The Home was self-sufficient in vegetables and eggs and a surplus was sold for the benefit of the Amenities Fund.

### *Good Conduct System*

This provides good conduct money at the rate of \$1.00 a week for any boy whose work and conduct has been good.

### *Advisory Board and Parole*

This was established in 1950 with the Director of Education as Chairman and six members appointed by His Excellency the Governor. It holds monthly meetings to review the progress made by those boys who have completed their first year of detention, and to make recommendations to the Chief Secretary for release on parole. The Probation Officer attends the meetings to report on home circumstances and other relevant matters. His help was very valuable.

### *Parole Cases*

Seven boys were released from the Boys' Home—five on normal discharge and two on parole. Two—one from Bintulu and one from Kuching—were found accommodation at the Padungan Boys' Hostel. The other five, one from Sibuluan and four from North Borneo, were sent home.

The two boys on parole satisfactorily finished their probation periods.

*Amenities Fund*

Started in October, 1953, the fund gets its revenue from donations and the sale of surplus vegetables, eggs and handicrafts produced at the Home. Interest from the Post Office Savings Bank are credited to it. The revenue up to 31st December, 1957, was \$1,453.65. The fund is under the control of the Superintendent of Prisons and some of the money is used for expenses on entertainments during Christmas and New Year festivals.

## XII

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### PUBLIC UTILITIES AND WORKS

#### WATER SUPPLIES

##### *Kuching*

THERE was a long awaited and welcome improvement in the Kuching supply, due mainly to the commissioning of the Batu Kitang treatment plant which can make available 3,000,000 gallons per day of fully purified Class I water by United Kingdom Ministry of Health standards. The plant began to work on 13th March, 1957, and it has, except in the drier months, supplied about 800,000 gallons per day. From July to September the Matang supply almost dried up and Batu Kitang was easily able to maintain a continuous supply. Kuching consumes about 2,750,000 gallons of water a day, and in 1957 987,000,000 gallons were supplied.

The water rate is 75 cents per thousand gallons and a new system of meter reading and billing was introduced. Restriction of the hours of supply stopped on 13th March, 1957, but renewals of mains was not completed, and this is why it was not possible to accept many recent applications for supplies.

The source of supply for Batu Kitang is the Sarawak River and Matang water comes from the Matang dam, Sungei China and Sungei Bawak. An improved supply to properties across the Sarawak River from Kuching has been given, but this still needs attention. There are 3,610 consumers. The storage reservoirs at Datu Muda Hill have a capacity of 3,703,820 gallons.

##### *Lundu*

Material for this supply has been delivered and a start made on laying the trunk main from the dam to the town. The construction of the dam is about one-third complete.

*Santubong*

A small water supply, constructed and set to work, gives a standpipe supply to the kampong dwellers and the holiday bungalows. The people of Santubong helped greatly in carrying out the work. The water is piped into the village from a small dam and a roughing filter built on the Sungei Sabun. The capacity is 30,000 gallons per day.

*Simanggang*

A supply of about 120,000 gallons per day has been planned and in 1957 final tests were carried out on the four wells and the material required to lay the distribution system ordered.

*Sibu*

In Sibu there was an improvement: a continuous supply with no restrictions has been given since August. Equipment to extend the Bukit Lima Works was temporarily installed and thus, with the completion of a second 76,000-gallon elevated tank, made it possible to give a continuous supply of about 800,000 gallons per day. Extensions to the distribution system have improved pressures in parts of the town.

The water supplied by the headworks at Bukit Lima is fully purified water Class I. It is pumped from the Rejang River and serves 18,000 people, each taking about 42 gallons per day. 1,675 consumers are connected to the supply and supplies are metered. Water is also supplied to shipping. Materials have been ordered to extend the Sibu supply to Sungei Merah.

*Sarikei*

The supply was set to work in July. Four tube wells pump water by electrically-driven submersible pumps to an overhead tank of 200,000 gallons, whence water flows to the town by gravity. The capacity is just over 200,000 gallons per day for a population of about 4,000. At present only a standpipe supply is given and this will be continued until the wells have been proved and settled down.

*Binatang*

In Binatang construction of the supply is complete and except for the chlorinator all the apparatus has been received. Three tube wells pump water by electrically-driven submersible

pumps to an overhead tank of 100,000 gallons. The plant has a daily capacity of 150,000 gallons and this should serve 3,000 people when fully connected with services. At present only one well is being pumped and the pump is supplied with power from a portable generator until the completion of the conversion of the electricity supply to A.C. A standpipe supply only is offered, so far.

### *Mukah*

A continuous supply has been maintained but consumption has been restricted by the brownish colour of the water. The apparatus ordered as a result of the report by the World Health Organisation arrived. About 2,700 people consume about 54,000 gallons of water per day. There are 128 connections.

### *Miri*

Miri has a bulk supply provided and metered to Government from Tank No. 103 belonging to Sarawak Oilfields Limited. This water is purified at the filtration plant at Pujat and pumped to Tank No. 103. The population of about 7,000 requires about 300,000 gallons per day. The supply is on for seventeen hours each day, and shut down during darkness largely as a safety measure. No staff are kept on night duty and there is a risk that if a big burst occurred the tank would be drained very quickly. The service is reported to be very satisfactory.

### *Bintulu*

This is a small gravity water supply from a small dam four miles from the town. Water is piped by a six-inch pipeline to an elevated tank near the town centre. About 3,300 people are supplied. There are 203 consumers and thirty-six standpipes. The system operated well on the whole and supplied a fairly good Class Four water (untreated). The height of the dam must be raised but it could not be done last year.

### *Limbang*

This old supply feeds water to about 3,000 people from two impounding dams, Wassia Hitam and Sungei Poyan, with a combined capacity of about 310,000 gallons. Apparatus was delivered to measure the performance of the system so that recommendations may be made to improve the supply. There are 119 consumers.

*Lawas*

The Lawas scheme consists of a mass concrete impounding dam, a straining chamber and two miles of five-inch pipeline. The capacity of the dam is about 800,000 gallons and untreated water is supplied to the town.

*General*

Water supplies are planned for Kapit, Kanowit, Song, Serian, Siniawan and Marudi.

## GAS

*Miri*

The natural gas supply from the oilfields at Seria continues to be in demand. There are 517 consumers.

## BROOKE DOCKYARD AND ENGINEERING WORKS

The Brooke Dockyard and Engineering Works is a public utility establishment operated by a board of management, appointed by the Government, of nine members including representatives of commercial organisations with the Director of Public Works as its chairman. The dockyard has a staff of seventy-two permanent employees with a manager in charge. The drydock is 240 feet long by 40 feet at the entrance and can take vessels of about 10 feet 6 inches draft at spring tides. It is tidal and the entrance is closed by a steel caisson operated by the rise and fall of the tide, with pumping machinery to deal with the water below tide level. There is a small slipway which handles vessels up to forty feet in length.

The machine shop is equipped with suitable G.P. lathes, and other equipment to deal with general engineering repairs, hull repairs both steel and wooden, boiler repairs and engine overhauls. The rehabilitation programme continued and several improvements were made to the installation. A heavy duty plate roller was installed to take plates up to half-inch thick by ten feet long. A Massey pneumatic hammer of five hundredweight was also put in, a filing and sawing machine, a cylinder boring and honing unit, and various precision tools and instruments. A gas detecting instrument was bought. Sixty-nine vessels were dry-docked with a tonnage of 10,252.25 tons. Twenty-eight launches were slipped.

## PUBLIC WORKS

*Buildings and Civil Engineering Works*

The registration of contractors being carried out in 1956 was completed and from 1st January, 1957 only contractors registered with the Public Works Department were permitted to undertake Government contracts. Contractors are now registered under three main heads, namely: engineering contractors; building contractors; road, quarry and earthwork contractors. Under each head, contractors are divided according to their capacity into one of five classes ranging from the lowest category, for works up to \$10,000, to the highest category for works exceeding \$500,000. This registration system has generally been a success and has been accompanied by a tightening-up of general contract procedure.

In the middle of the year there was a relaxation of the wage rates payable by Government Departments for unskilled labour. Increased wage scales enabled the Department to employ, on direct labour, artisans previously unobtainable owing to the low wage rates. The present wage rates payable are: \$3.40 per day for unskilled labour; \$3.40—\$5.50 per day for semi-skilled labour; \$4.00—\$8.00 per day for skilled labour; and \$10.00 per day for foreman artisans.

Schemes were prepared by consultants for a new wharf and the general layout of the port area for Kuching, and preliminary designs for a new wharf at Sarikei and a new bridge at Batu Kitang on the Kuching-Bau Road.

A design section was established at headquarters and it carried out a number of design works to the stage of their being ready for the calling for tenders. These include a new slipway for the Brooke Dockyard; a new river wall on the Kuching river front; standard pontoon wharves in aluminium, and a 150 feet three-span road bridge for a river crossing on the Sarikei-Binatang Road.

*Quarters and Accommodation*

The following works were completed: quarters—Class I and II, 31 (in progress 14); quarters—Class III and IV, 89 (in progress 38); barrack accommodation (units), 14 (in progress 5); and Miri low-cost housing scheme, 92.

*Miscellaneous Buildings*

Works completed or in hand included service quarters and flats, Government secondary schools, hospitals, clinics, nurses homes, maternity buildings, offices for Government departments, police buildings, extensions and alterations to Broadcasting House and the transmitting station, and telephone exchanges. The execution of suitable buildings work by direct labour was begun and although the scope was limited mainly by the lack of skilled labour, an encouraging start was made. One of these schemes was the construction of sixteen Class I quarters in Kuching. Of new works the most important were two secondary school—one at the 24th mile on the Kuching-Serian Road, to accommodate sixty boarders and 240 day pupils and to cost about \$1,217,621 and the other at Miri to accommodate 120 boarders and 240 day pupils and to cost about \$1,219,822.

*Wharves*

Repairs are being carried out to the Ban Hock wharf, Bunker wharf and the boat jetty in Kuching; and in the Second Division, a reinforced concrete wharf was built at Lingga and a new commerical wharf is under construction at Sebuyau. At Mukah in the Third Division, a new timber wharf was built, and at Sibü, two new floating wharves are under construction to replace the floating timber wharves which rapidly deteriorate under the use they get from river launches jostling for position. At Kuala Baram in the Fourth Division a new wharf with reinforced concrete approach and timber head was finished.

*Town Development*

The major town development work was the \$2,670,000 scheme to develop new bazaar areas for Sibü. The basis of the scheme is the reclamation of large areas of swamp, and this involved the provision of adequate drainage and large quantities of filling. In the First Division a new bazaar site three miles from Kuching was constructed and bazaar drainage provided in a number of small bazaars. Work was also carried out in the development of Lawas Bazaar in the Fifth Division and Marudi Bazaar in the Fourth Division.

*Quarries*

Development of Sebuyau Quarry in the Second Division to provide an increased quantity of stone primarily to cover works



requirements in the Second and Third Divisions was pressed forward. A new stone jetty was under construction and new crushing, screening and conveying plant being installed. A new 200-ton capacity powered stone barge was put into service and a 250-ton barge arrived at the end of the year. These were named *Gajah* and *Seladang* respectively.

### *Airfield Construction*

Simanggang Airfield was completed. Mukah Airfield in the Third Division was begun and extensions to the Sibü Airfield were continued. The construction of a new airfield at Marudi began.

### ELECTRICITY

The Sarawak Electricity Supply Company Limited, government-owned with an authorised capital of \$6,000,000 and issued shares totalling \$5,400,000, provides public electricity throughout the major centres in Sarawak, and operates within the framework of the 1952 Electricity Ordinance and 1955 Electricity Rules.

Supplies, varying with the locality, are either A.C. 400/230 volts three-phase fifty cycle or D.C. 460/230 volts three wire, with diesel prime movers and hours of supply varying from thirteen to twenty-four daily, depending on the importance of the locality. The company now operates sixteen stations with installed capacities ranging from ten to 2,719 kilowatts.

In Kuching, Sibü and Miri, high tension networks operating at 6,600 Volts provide primary distribution. Generating capacity at Kuching was increased to 2,719 kilowatts, and station transformer capacity to 2,400 KVA. Three new substations were commissioned and further extensions to the underground 6,600 volt system were undertaken. The high tension overhead extension from the 7th Mile Power Station to the Mental Hospital was completed and also the associated L.T. distribution in the area.

At Simanggang a twenty-hour supply was instituted and the installed capacity increased to 118 kilowatts.

Activity in Sibü centred mainly on the rehabilitation and extension of the power station, where the capacity has now been increased to 1,000 kilowatts. Station transformer capacity has been duplicated and new switchgear installed. Substations at the Field Force camp and the convent were commissioned.

At Sarikei a high tension underground cable extension of one mile was completed to the waterworks.

The A.C. to D.C. change-over at Miri was continued with during the year, and the A.C. generating capacity was increased by the addition of a 146 kilowatt set. Duplicate transformer capacity was installed and the station main switchboard almost wholly renewed.

The low tension distribution systems in all branches were actively overhauled during the year, to improve supply conditions to all consumers and to maintain regulation within the limits laid down in the Electricity Ordinance, 1952.

The licensing of other minor supplies not associated with the Sarawak Electricity Supply Company proceeded under the Electricity Ordinance, the installed capacity of these ranging from one and a half kilowatts to twenty kilowatts. Detailed statistical data is not available for these supplies.

# XIII

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## COMMUNICATIONS

### AIR

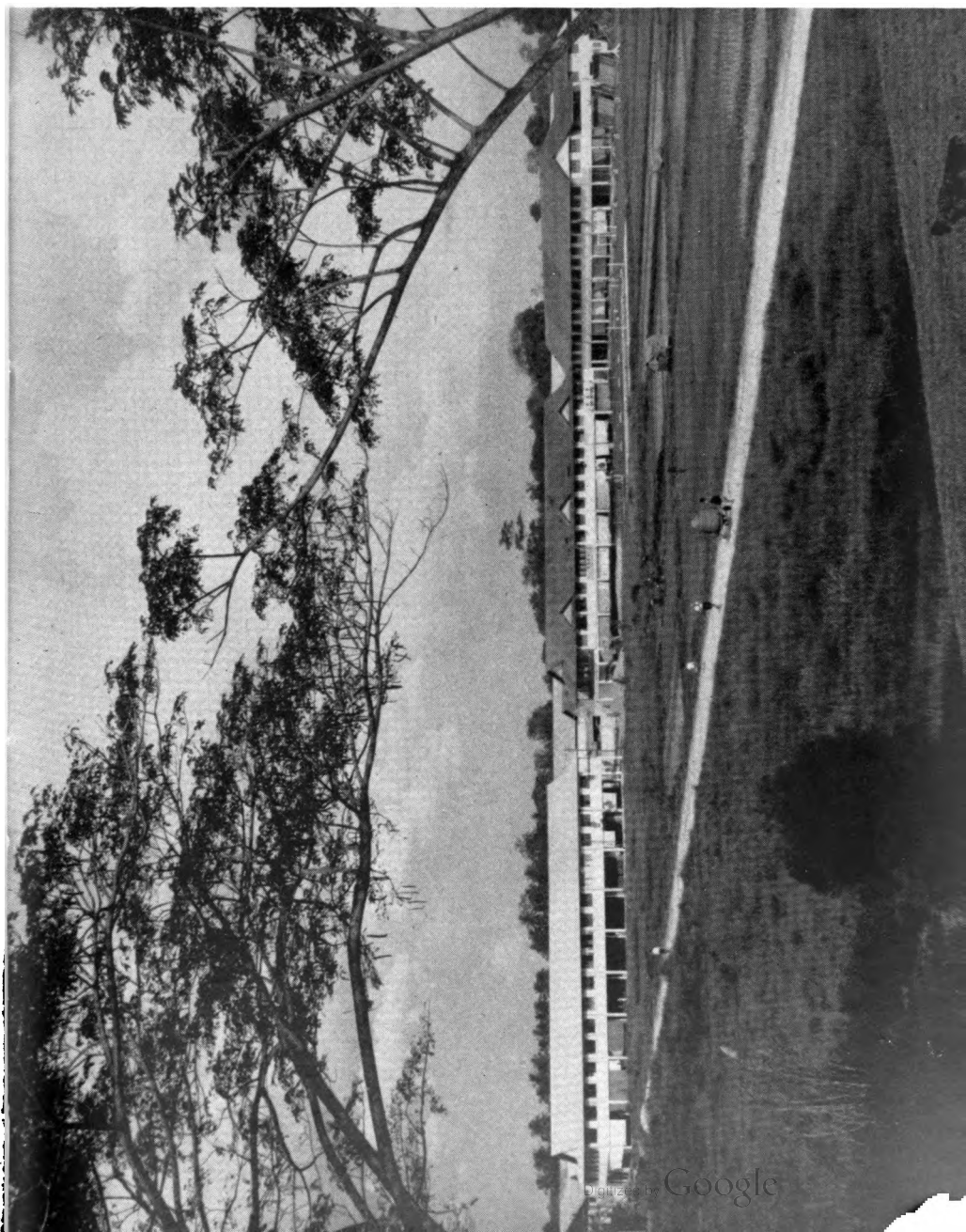
AS the opening paragraphs of Chapter I of Part III of this Report make clear, communication in Sarawak depends very much on water, and on jungle paths, but post-war development and increased production has been such that these older and slower means of transportation do not satisfy present day commercial activity. The public now relies on air travel as an additional means of transport and the appreciation of its importance is reflected in the continual upsurge of traffic carried by the air services. Sarawak is very dependent upon being able to maintain daily air communications between Singapore on the one side, and Brunei and North Borneo on the other, in addition to the internal links between its own commercial centres. The need to link these centres in turn with the more remote communities is essential, and in furtherance of that objective airfields and airstrips are being constructed and developed in many interior areas; but for the present air services are confined to routes over the coastal lowland area.

#### *Public Air Transport*

Up to November 1957, the services were operated by Malayan Airways Limited of Singapore, either by means of their Douglas DC 3 aircraft flying upon routes emanating from Singapore, or by their De Havilland Rapide aircraft from the Borneo internal air service unit based in Labuan, in North Borneo. All these these services are very heavily supported, particularly those between Kuching and Sibu, and between Lutong, Bintulu and Sibu, where on the average a full month's advance booking must be made. The need for additional aircraft is appreciated and in conjunction with the Governments of Brunei and North Borneo the Sarawak Government has ordered two Scottish Aviation Twin Pioneer aircraft.

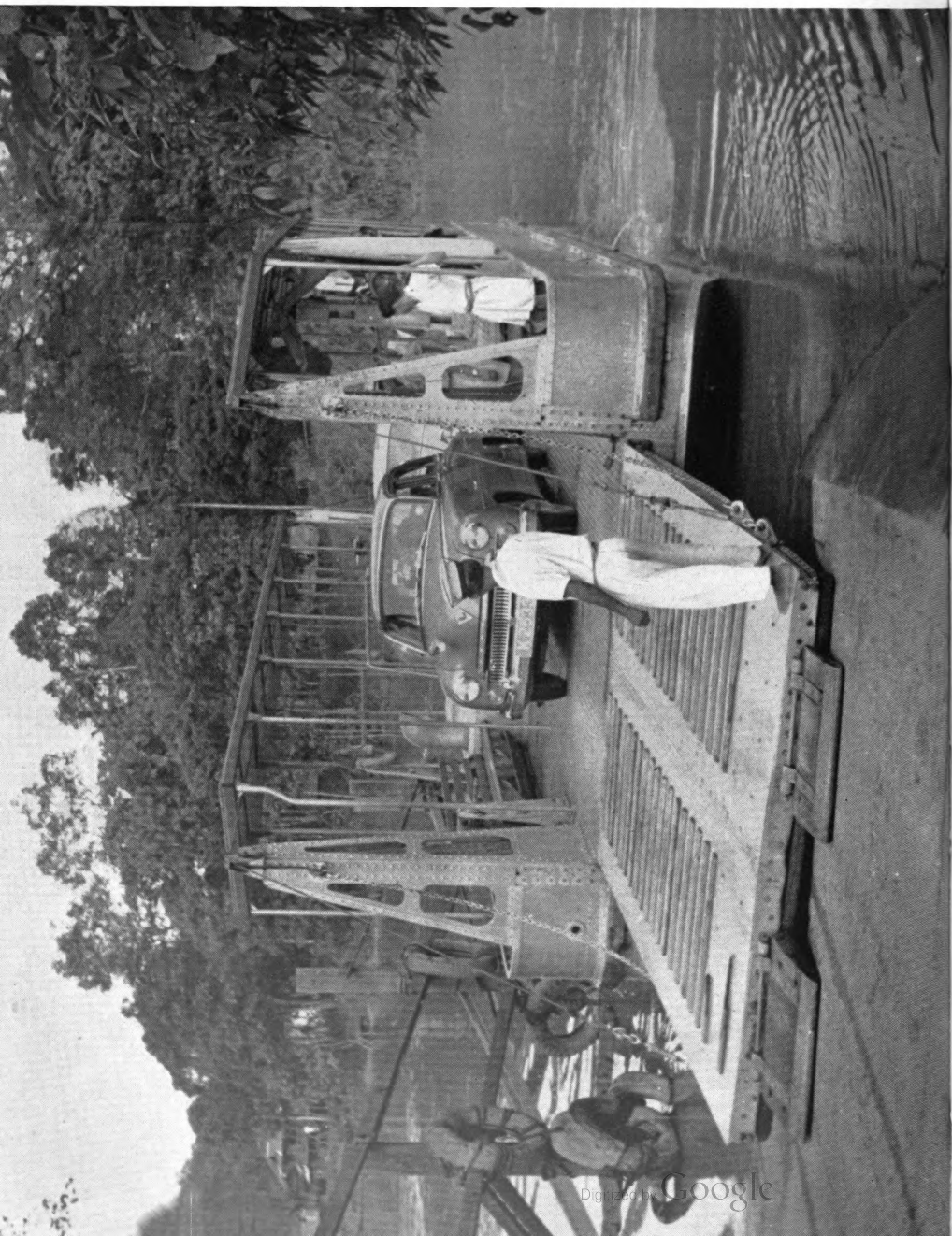
As a result of prolonged negotiations with Malayan Airways a reorganisation took place in November 1957 whereby the

Part of the new  
bazaar at Simang-  
gang, Headquarters  
of the Second  
Division



(Ng Tat Foh)

The vehicular ferry  
crossing the  
Sarawak River at  
Batu Kitang on the  
road from Kuching  
to Bau in the First  
Division



(Chai Koh Khim)

Borneo internal air service unit of Malayan Airways was formed into a private company consisting of the Governments of Sarawak, Brunei and North Borneo, British Overseas Airways Corporation, and Malayan Airways Limited, with the Governments together possessing the majority share-holding.

The new company, Borneo Airways Limited, will operate (and develop) all the existing routes of the previous Borneo internal air services unit and will progressively expand its activities as the interior airfields are completed.

The services in operation at the end of 1957 were as follows:—

## INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES

<i>Class</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
First	Singapore-Kuching-Sibu-Labuan Jesselton-Sandakan	twice weekly in each direction.
Tourist	Singapore-Kuching-Sibu-Labuan Jesselton-Sandakan	once weekly in each direction.
First	Singapore-Kuching-Sibu-Brunei Jesselton-Sandakan	once weekly in each direction.
Tourist	Singapore-Kuching-Sibu-Brunei Jesselton-Sandakan	once weekly in each direction.
First	Singapore-Kuching-Sibu-Labuan- Jesselton	twice weekly in each direction.
Tourist	Singapore-Kuching-Sibu	once weekly in each direction.
Tourist	Singapore-Kuching-Brunei	once weekly in each direction.

## BORNEO INTERNAL AIR SERVICES

<i>Route</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
Labuan-Brunei-Lutong-Bintulu-Sibu	Four times weekly in each direction.

*Private Aviation*

In addition to public air transport there is increasing activity in private aviation. Sarawak Oilfields Limited at Miri frequently use aircraft of their parent company, Brunei Shell Petroleum Company of Seria, which operates a fleet of three Percival Prince and three Sealand aircraft, and also has operating on charter from Bahamas Helicopters Limited two Westland S55, and two Bell Helicopters. The role of these aircraft is mainly to provide

company air communications, aerial surveys, and the supply and transportation of drilling crews and materials to and from drilling locations either on land or on marine platforms. Another established private operator is the Borneo Evangelical Mission based at Lawas, which maintains communication with missionaries in the interior, carrying supplies, medicine and members of their staff in their two Auster aircraft. The flying and maintenance of the aircraft is carried out by the missionaries.

### *Military Aviation*

Military aircraft of the Royal Air Force and Commonwealth Air Forces continue to use Kuching as a jet aircraft staging post on their support route between Hong Kong and Singapore. Pembroke aircraft were stationed at Kuching in 1957 while undertaking a photographic survey of Kuching, Sibü and Miri areas.

### *Airports and Airstrips*

Kuching	:	International: Alternate. ICAO Class S3. 4,500 feet metalled runway.
Sibü	:	ICAO Class E5 at present being extended in length from 3,600 feet to 4,500 feet.
Bintulu	:	an all-weather grass airstrip of 3,090 feet by 240 feet.
Long Akah	:	Newly constructed hinterland air service airstrip 1,410 feet by 90 feet.
Long Semado	}	Small airstrips built by the Borneo Evangelical Mission for Auster aircraft operation. Some of these will be developed by Government to enable them to be used by the projected hinterland of air services by Borneo Airways.
Ba Kelalan		
Lio Matu		
Lawas		
Long Tebangan		
Long Gong		
Long Atip		
Bario	:	Government airstrip of 1,500 feet by 75 feet.
Lutong (Miri)	:	A private grass airfield 1,080 feet by 150 feet owned by the Sarawak Oilfields Limited but licensed for operation by Borneo Airways Limited services.
Simanggang	:	A newly constructed all-weather airstrip of 2,650 feet by 210 feet. This airfield has not yet been opened to aircraft.
Mukah	}	Grass airstrips of 1,800 feet by 180 feet now under construction, and to be completed before mid-1958.
Marudi		

Air traffic control services are provided by the Department of Civil Aviation at Kuching, Sibul, Bintulu and Lutong. Meteorological observation stations are at Kuching, Miri and Bintulu, and these undertake regular observations in accordance with World Meteorological Organisation specifications, including day and night pilot balloon observations.

#### WATER

##### *Coastal and Local Services*

The Sarawak Steamship Company disposed of three coastal vessels, and only their Kuching to Rejang River service by M.V. *Rejang* remains in operation. The Fifth Division has been most affected by this suspension of services. The Kuching-Baram service was re-opened by a local shipping company with one of the vessels sold by the Steamship Company, and new and larger Chinese owned launches have taken up the intermediate trade in Bintulu and other places. There are now 740 coastal and river craft registered.

##### *Oversea Services*

The Sarawak Steamship Company maintained its regular weekly service between Kuching and Singapore, with the vessels *Rajah Brooke* and *Auby*, carrying both cargo and passengers. The China Siam Line provided a fortnightly service to Hong Kong via North Borneo, carrying cargo and passengers. An average of three other vessels a month also visited Kuching, mainly from Bangkok with rice. Three oil tankers a month called at Biawak Oil Depot with bulk cargoes for distribution in the First and Second Divisions.

A weekly service to the Rejang River Ports from Singapore continued to be provided by the Sarawak Steamship Company, and also by the Hua Siang Shipping Company, making a total of eight vessels per month. China Siam Line vessels also called twice a month at these ports on their service from Hong Kong Kuching, and another vessel began a regular service from Hong Kong to the Rejang River via North Borneo. An average of three other vessels per month, mainly from Bangkok with rice, visited the Rejang Ports and two oil tankers per month with bulk



supplies discharged at Sibü. An average of twelve main line vessels visited Tanjong Mani each month to load export cargoes, the majority being ships of the Blue Funnel and Ben Lines.

### *The Government Fleet*

The demand for Government water transport continued to increase, with a tendency towards specialised requirements rather than general transport. Four new 48-foot launches were brought into service to replace wartime-built workboats. Two new stone carriers and one loading craft were added to the fleet. Twenty-four thousand tons of stone were carried from Sebuyau Quarry to the Third Division during the year.

### *Casualties*

A major casualty occurred in February 1957, when the Shell Tanker M.V. *Landak* disappeared on a voyage from Jesselton to Singapore. A lifeboat from the vessel was washed ashore at Tanjong Baram, but no other traces were found. A Court of Inquiry ruled that "there was no evidence to show how the vessel had been lost". Both Miri and Mukah bars claimed their annual quota of victims, the vessels being subsequently refloated with no loss of life. The M.L. *Lee Kiong*, a Chinese launch, was sunk after colliding with the Government launch *Pergam* off Sematan. An unsuccessful attempt was made to salvage the vessel.

### *Navigational Aids*

The modernisation of the main coastal lights was completed when Tanjong Kedurong was changed from kerosene to electricity. Sarawak now possesses a chain of lights using the most modern equipment. The Rejang River entrance buoy was lifted for servicing, and a temporary one laid in its place. Routine maintenance and fuelling was carried out by M.V. *Kenyalang*, and the scope of this work was increased by the installation of VHF radio stations at four main lighthouses.

### *Visit of Naval Vessels*

H.M.S. *Penglima* visited Kuching and Rejang River ports in July. H.M.S. *Alert* visited Kuching, and H.M.A.S. *Anzac* visited Miri, both in August.

## DEEP SEA TONNAGE 1957

	<i>Inwards</i>	<i>Outwards</i>
Kuching	168,730	137,346
Rejang River	607,092	607,690
Miri	3,072,533	3,074,129
Limbang	28,592	28,255
	<hr/> 3,876,947	<hr/> 3,847,420

## COASTAL TONNAGE 1957

	<i>Inwards</i>	<i>Outwards</i>
Kuching	108,116	123,226
Lundu	4,611	4,573
Simunjan	21,719	23,268
Sematan	2,388	2,046
Simanggang	10,684	11,730
Betong	6,073	6,055
Sibu	83,510	66,258
Binatang	20,016	22,740
Sarikei	23,268	21,060
Tanjong Mani	25,572	18,069
Balingan	6,954	6,969
Mukah	18,604	18,562
Matu	3,196	3,372
Oya	5,709	5,849
Miri	21,659	21,272
Bintulu	34,427	33,606
Baram	99,276	102,498
Niah	5,393	5,393
Sibuti	3,883	3,883
Tatau	6,279	6,279
Limbang	2,980	3,120
Lawas	2,562	1,280
Sundar	928	1,127
	<hr/> 517,807	<hr/> 512,235

## ROADS

Previous reports indicated the absence of a territorial road system and the fact that the rivers of Sarawak comprise the highway system. Such roads as exist are in the main town roads, with a few good roads radiating from the more important towns. The first link in the future road system is now being constructed by directly employed labour. It is the Serian-Simanggang Road of some 82 miles which will link Kuching with Simanggang, the principal town of the Second Division. Work has gone well and earthworks have now progressed for some 12 miles. Earthworks for the link road from Sarikei to Binatang progressed some 12 miles from Sarikei.

The road reconstruction programme continued, and the construction of roads under the town development programme. The major works are in Sibü, Sarikei, Mukah, Miri and Marudi.

Mileages of roads maintained by Government and by local authorities are:—

	<i>12 ft. and over</i>	<i>12 ft.-8 ft.</i>	<i>Paths under 8 ft. wide</i>
Bitumen or Concrete	108.48	1.28	—
Gravel or Stone	75.86	60.15	2.50
Earth	99.23	159.10	50.09
	<hr/> 283.57	<hr/> 220.53	<hr/> 52.59
	TOTAL ROADS		<hr/> 556.69

## LAND TRANSPORT

The work of the Department increased steadily in Kuching where more than seventy per cent of the motor vehicles in Sarawak are found. Three hundred and ten motor vehicles were newly registered in Kuching as compared with 398 in 1956. The increase in motor vehicles has created a high density of traffic. Motor vehicle licence fees were doubled and the basis of calculation for commercial vehicle taxation was changed from engine capacity to unladen weight. The increased taxation caused some comment but only briefly, because there was a general realisation that the additional revenue would go towards the maintenance and expansion of roads.

The public demand for driving licences continued unabated. There was a long list of applicants awaiting driving tests. 6,629 provisional driving licences and subsequent renewals were issued, and there were 1,086 driving tests. Fifty-three per cent of the applicants for driving tests passed and twenty-one per cent failed. Twenty-six per cent were not ready for or refrained from taking tests. The fees for driving licences, provisional licences and renewals were increased to \$5.00.

Parking rules were introduced to regulate and provide for the limiting of parking places for particular classes of vehicles. The need to exclude learner drivers from crowded areas during peak traffic periods became urgent and regulations were introduced. A committee appointed by the Governor examined all existing traffic legislation and proposed a number of revisions, including more stringent safety measures.

Three bus companies have franchises in the Kuching area, but two face severe operational difficulties. The poor condition of the vehicles is due not so much to reluctance by the owners to maintain their vehicles to the high standard required as to their inability to provide proper garage and maintenance facilities. Efforts continued by the Department to bring about an amalgamation of all the companies. Sixty-three buses with 1,070 passenger seats covered about 2,500,000 passenger miles. Preparations were completed both in Miri and Sibu for the issue of franchises to bus companies. Modern and comfortable buses have been introduced, but certain country routes continue to be manned by small vehicles.

The undesirable practice of carrying passengers in goods vehicles spread alarmingly and become a public danger, passengers standing packed in lorries without any thought of their own or other people's safety. Steps were accordingly taken to enforce more stringent measures by legislation.

The Kuching Motor Transport Licensing Authority gave much valuable guidance and support in many matters connected with organising and expanding the public transport services.

#### TELECOMMUNICATIONS

##### *Public Telephone Service*

Progress was made in development projects for expanding the public telephone service.

## AUTOMATIC EXCHANGES

*Kuching.* Work began in November on the extension of the exchange from 1,000 to 2,000 lines which should meet the requirements in the town area for two years. About ten miles of cable were laid for use with the new equipment.

*Sibu.* Expansion of the system to 1,200 lines is being planned.

*Miri.* The automatic exchange of 300/500 lines was delivered and the building completed.

*Binatang.* A 100 line automatic exchange was planned. It will be connected to Sibu by radio junctions.

## MANUAL EXCHANGES

Other places in Sarawak are equipped with manual exchanges of which there are forty.

There are places not yet equipped but they have VHF R/T telephone and will be provided with switchboards as development proceeds.

## TELEPHONE STATISTICS

*(Values are in decimals of a million \$)*

Year	TELEPHONE			TRUNKS		Total Service Value \$
	Number	Cash Revenue \$	Service Value \$	Cash Revenue \$	Service Value \$	
1952	720	.022	.045	—	—	.045
1953	720	.024	.056	—	—	.056
1954	720	.027	.057	—	—	.057
1955	1,257	.072	.115	—	—	.115
1956	1,931	.110	.186	.041	.094	.280
1957	2,135	.271	.459	.120	.244	.703

*Notes:* Cash revenue is collected from private subscribers for telephone rental and trunk call charges.

Service value includes value of local and trunk calls provided for Government Departments.

## VHF RADIO NETWORK

VHF radio junctions connecting out-stations in each Division to the zone centres were provided. Fifty-five VHF stations are in operation.

## VHF RADIO MULTICHANNEL TRUNK SYSTEM

To connect the Divisional zone centres of Kuching, Sibü and Miri a VHF Multi-channel system is planned. The first phase has been to provide high power radio equipment using existing buildings and towers. Two eight circuit carrier systems operated Kuching-Sibü and Sibü-Miri and these circuits gave a useful service Kuching-Sibü and a limited service Kuching-Sibü-Miri. Single channel circuits were set up to give extra zone to zone trunk circuits. These include Simanggang.

## PUBLIC TELEGRAPH SERVICES

Inland telegraph services operated between fifty-six places in Sarawak by wireless telegraphy and VHF radio telephone. External telegraph services operated to Singapore, Jesselton and Brunei by direct W/T from Kuching and from Miri to Labuan and Kuala Belait. The external telegraph service to Singapore is operated by teleprinters. The inland telegraph service is planned to go over to operation by teleprinter on important circuits. The Kuching to Sibü circuit is so operated.

## TELEGRAPH STATISTICS

(Values are in decimals of a million \$)

Year	FOREIGN WORDS		INTERNAL WORDS		Cash Revenue	Service Value
	Sent	Received	Govt.	Private	\$	\$
1952	.82	.94	1.77	1.46	.23	.41
1953	.93	1.06	2.03	2.05	.25	.44
1954	.88	.89	1.81	1.99	.25	.42
1955	.96	.95	2.11	1.38	.28	.47
1956	.86	.95	2.42	1.42	.26	.46
1957	.93	.86	2.19	1.16	.21	.37

*Notes:* Cash revenue is in respect of private telegrams handed in for transmission at telegraph offices throughout Sarawak.

Service value is the revenue which would have been collected if telegrams on Government service had been paid for.

#### AERADIO

International Aeradio Limited continued to operate the Kuching and Sibu aeradio stations. The stations at Lutong and Bintulu were operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department. The new airfields at Simanggang and Mukah are being provided with aeradio services by the Department.

#### *Police Radio Network*

The radio networks operated by the police and maintained the Posts and Telegraphs Department were: (a) an HF network connecting the Constabulary Headquarters with the several Divisional Headquarters; (b) HF networks within Divisions to operate to mobile patrols; (c) VHF networks operating at Kuching, Sibu and Miri for mobile patrol within these towns and their environs; (d) other Police stations equipped with VHF operating into the public telephone system.

#### MARINE RADIO NETWORK

With the installation of equipment at Tanjong Sirik and Tanjong Kidurong the Sarawak Marine VHF R/T shore station network was completed.

The continuously operated VHF R/T stations were: Kuching VHF Station, Tanjong Po, Tanjong Sirik, Tanjong Jerijeh, Tanjong Kidurong, Tanjong Mani, and Miri VHF Station. Stations were also operated at Mukah and Bintulu but not continuously. The stations at Kuching, Tanjong Mani and Miri are connected to the telephone exchange and ships fitted with VHF R/T equipment calling these stations are able to be connected to private telephones.

#### POSTAL SERVICES

##### *Post Office*

A new Post Office at Lutong was established.

The new issue of stamps, for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, was placed on sale on 1st October.

## MAIL STATISTICS

The following tables show the other services of the Department:—

Year	Value of COD parcels received from		Number of ordinary parcels	
	United Kingdom	Malaya	Despatched	Received
	\$	\$		
1952	54,800.00	527,500.00	14,280	32,350
1953	45,900.00	575,400.00	11,470	23,600
1954	36,500.00	579,200.00	13,130	28,320
1955	33,900.00	451,000.00	14,380	36,140
1956	29,290.00	390,640.00	17,770	40,700
1957	27,010.00	492,190.00	20,198	74,055

There is no C.O.D. outgoing service from Sarawak.

## MAILS

(Values in decimals of a million \$)

Year	Stamps Sold	Service
	\$	\$
1952	.242	.364
1953	.358	.538
1954	.369	.553
1955	.436	.684
1956	.463	.694
1957	.664	.996

Statistics show that in all despatches the ratio of unstamped Government mail to stamped mail is approximately one to two. Cash revenue is the value of stamps sold. Service value is cash revenue plus fifty per cent.



## XIV

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### INFORMATION, PRESS AND BROADCASTING

#### INFORMATION AND PRESS

THE year was marred by tragedy. On 6th July the Information Service's staff photographer died after a road accident. Abang Morshidi had proved himself, at 28, to be a much more than competent photographer in both still and cinematographic work, and the promise for his future was made brilliant by his skill and good taste. His death put an end for the time being to the making of films, but the production of still photographs has been continued by his successor, who is younger but who shows excellent promise.

In every other field, there was marked progress and especially in the dissemination of official news and information. The English weekly publication *Sarawak by the Week*, put out each Saturday by the Information Office, is now generally of twelve pages and the weekly circulation increased, solely as the result of requests, from 350 to 650 copies. The bulletin now circulates widely in the Commonwealth and in many foreign countries, and not only to Government agencies. Within Sarawak — and it is for the people of Sarawak that it is primarily designed — the bulletin has now come to be trusted as a leading source of accurate news.

The success of *Sarawak by the Week* made inevitable the production of its Malay companion, and this, *Sarawak Dalam Sa-Minggu*, was first issued in August 1957. It contains the same material as the English and is produced in the Information Office every Sunday. It has already almost beaten its older brother in popularity — 650 copies were issued weekly after only five months.

The two old-stagers, the monthlies, *Pedoman Ra'ayat* and *Pembrita*, had their faces elegantly lifted under professional guidance. They increased in size and acquired a much more

attractive lay-out. A pictorial spread in the centre pages, featuring a greater variety of material of economic and health value, has added to both the popularity and usefulness of the papers.

It has not been thought necessary to produce a Chinese version of *Sarawak by the Week* because the Chinese community is so well served by the Chinese newspapers; and it is not yet possible to produce an Iban version for lack of staff and office accommodation. But the output of the office in Chinese, both in original writing and in translation from other languages, began a steady increase through the engagement of an experienced newspapermen as Chinese press officer; and a calendar for 1958 in Iban, giving a great deal of information both in words and by designs and illustrations for those not yet able to read was printed for the first time. The idea and much of the content of the calendar came from an Iban member of the staff of the Education Department, to whom the Information Office is greatly indebted.

Apart from these regular activities the stream of press releases in English and Chinese increased greatly in 1957 and is at an average of over 150 per month. This production has been greatly helped, and indeed only made possible, by the willing and patient co-operation of Heads of Departments and many other Government officials, to whom also the Information Office gratefully acknowledges its debt. Many of these officers, as well as many visitors to the country, have been given generously of their time and skill at informal press conferences, and at least a dozen more formal, full dress conferences were organised, for such distinguished visitors as the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Perth, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs; Sir Christopher Cox, Adviser on Education to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Sir Harry Wunderly, the famous Australian specialist in tuberculosis. Tours in many parts of the country were organised and varied help given for scores of visiting officials, editors, foreign correspondents and photographers. Among the more important of these visitors on the press side were two tried and good friends to Sarawak, Allington Kennard of the *Straits Times* and Ronald Stead — who spent nearly the whole of December in Borneo — from the *Christian Science Monitor* and several

welcome newcomers: Jerome Caminada of *The Times*, Rawle Knox of the *Observer* and Jim Mason of the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

In all these activities the editors and managers of the newspapers of Sarawak have been constant and active in their co-operation and friendliness, and the Information Service is especially indebted to the Kuching editors for their ready help.

Several visits were made by office staff to the Sibu newspapers, and the same friendly co-operation was maintained with them and with the new Chinese paper in Miri, the *Miri Daily*, which began publication in June. The Sibu *Sin Min Pao* ceased publication, at least temporarily, in August.

The mobile cinema units maintained their activities amid an ever-increasing demand for their services in the rural and more remote parts of the country it is their purpose to serve, and the saturation point of some 800 shows to about 300,000 people was held to. The colour film, *Progress in Sarawak*, made by the Malayan Film Unit with the active co-operation of Abang Morshidi and referred to in last year's report, was completed and shown in the 35-mm. version, and met with warm approval. Five 16-mm. prints were brought and are being shown throughout the country by the mobile units, and widespread overseas circulation is being organised by the Malayan Film Unit with the co-operation of the Regional Information Office at the office, in Singapore, of the Commissioner-General for the United Kingdom in South-East Asia. The commentary in Malay for a Malay version was recorded in Kuala Lumpur in November by a member of the staff of Radio Sarawak.

The Regional Information Office continued to give valuable help to the Information Service by the provision of a regular flow of press material, pamphlets and reference papers; and their marked increase in the production of material in Chinese has greatly added to the usefulness to Sarawak of their services. Apart from this the help given by the Singapore office and its Hong Kong counterpart in advice, in arranging informal contacts, and in obtaining special materials and information, could hardly be exaggerated. It was therefore particularly pleasant to welcome the new Regional Information Officer, Mr. Desmond Pakenham, and the Head of the Hong Kong office, Mr. Leslie Smith, to

Sarawak in 1957. The Australian and Canadian Commissions and the United States Information Services, all in Singapore, and the Colombo Plan Information Unit, continued to provide excellent material of many kinds, and in particular an increase of good films. All these missions sent their leading representatives to Sarawak, and they all brought benefits and pleasure with them: Mr. James Elliot from the United States Information Service, Mr. Charles Marshall of the Canadian Film Board, Mr. Ian Hamilton of the Australian Commission, and Mr. L. P. Goonetilleke from Colombo.

The office continued to share the production with the Government Printer of the Annual Report for Sarawak, under the supervision of the Chief Secretary; of the Sarawak Calendar in English, which apparently increases in popularity, and not least among the schools for whom several thousand copies were specially printed; and of a varied collection of posters, one of which, designed in the Information Office to give a detailed picture of the Governmental structure of the country under the new Constitution and printed in both English and Malay, found itself facing a demand far exceeding the estimate and was several times reprinted. The office also worked closely (in supplying material and in discussion during a visit to Kuala Lumpur) with Mr. R. H. Hickling, the former Assistant Attorney-General, Sarawak, in work on the second edition of Mr. Hickling's well-known book *Sarawak and Its Government*.

The Annual Report was, as usual, produced in Malay and Chinese versions as well as in the original English, and in 1957 for the first time an Iban translation was also printed.

The Service shared with the Curator of the Sarawak Museum responsibility for the planning for the first visit to Sarawak of the Hon. Steven Runciman, who accepted the Government's commission to write the definitive history of Sarawak. Dr. Runciman visited Sarawak for two months in March and April and has since spent much of the year in consulting members of the Brooke family and in examining the family papers they have placed unreservedly at his disposal.

In June the Information Officer attended a conference of Information and Broadcasting officers in Brunei Town as the

guest of the Government of Brunei and later, in the course of leave journeys, visited the Regional Information Offices in Singapore and Hong Kong, the Department of Information and the United Kingdom Information Office in Kuala Lumpur, the Information Department of the Colonial Office, in London, and British Information Services in New York.

This report began on a note of ineluctable sadness; it ends with one of controlled triumph in the news that the Officer Administering the Government-in-Council has approved a site and a submission to the Finance Committee for funds for a new Information Office, with a public reading room and a small theatre, in Mosque Road in Kuching.

#### BROADCASTING

Throughout the year Broadcasting House was virtually given over to the architects and the contractors. Very extensive re-construction and improvement works have been carried out on the original building, opened in 1954, and these have made it much more suitable for its purpose. A substantial new wing has also been added to the original studio block and this provides a large production studio, a talks studio, a second continuity studio, a new record library, extensive storerooms, and accommodation for programme staff. Additional engineering, programme and administrative accommodation has been built at each end of the the front of the original building. This provides much-needed facilities and improve the appearance of Broadcasting House. All studios and office accommodation had been air-conditioned by the end of the year which virtually saw the end of building. This was a big and difficult task. Noise and interruptions were inevitably serious and unremitting, but broadcasting and programme production continued without interruption. The only comparatively minor inconvenience caused to listeners was the extraneous noise which occasionally got on the air.

Broadcasting House may now claim to be of the most suitable and modern construction, and to contain up-to-date and efficient equipment. The large improvement in technical facilities and working conditions should be reflected in the improved quality of programmes in the future. The engineering services

devoted a major effort to technical research and to aerial improvement. Much high-quality studio equipment was devised and constructed in the workshops at Broadcasting House, and this was being installed in the new studios by the end of the year.

Staff training was not overlooked. Three members of the programmes services and one broadcasting technician went overseas for professional training. Of the former, one spent six months with the Australian Broadcasting Commission, travelling nearly 30,000 miles to all parts of the Commonwealth, followed by a month with Radio Malaya in Singapore and the Federation. The second programme assistant went on a similar course of six months with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, to be followed by a short attachment to the British Broadcasting Corporation in London. The third member of the programme staff studied for some weeks in the news room of Radio Malaya in Singapore. The broadcasting technician is spending six months with the engineering services of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in Canada. Very great importance is attached to this study of professional methods with reputable broadcasting organisations overseas, and it has always proved to be of the greatest value in the past.

Quality of reception and the variety and content of programmes continued to show general improvement. The service received over 4,000 letters from listeners each month and nearly 1,000 of these came from abroad and from neighbouring countries in Borneo. The quality of local musical and drama productions rose steadily. This applied in particular to local bands and orchestras. The intellectual content of many spoken-word programmes attained a high standard and many eminent specialists from south-east Asia and overseas have been commissioned to prepare talks on subjects of general and specialised public interest. A features producer was appointed during the year and he travelled extensively in preparing feature programmes about many aspects of the peoples, industries and customs of Sarawak.

Annual licence fees on radio receivers were introduced in 1957. The annual fee is \$10 for a mains-operated receiver and \$3 for a battery receiver. By the close of the year about 25,000 licences had been taken out.

## XV

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### LOCAL FORCES

**T**HE Sarawak Rangers had another successful year in the Federation of Malaya and fully justified the high regard in which they are held in the regiments to which they are attached. This fine reputation was not sustained without cost. Private Letan anak Kusing died of wounds received on 22nd June in action with the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment. Five other Rangers were wounded in action during the year, one of whom Private Alo anak Kusing received the immediate award of Mention in Despatches. Private Alo successfully tracked for three days a party of terrorists in company with a patrol of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and in the subsequent engagement on 6th June he continued to fire at the terrorist position until it was taken, although he was severely wounded three times.

Changes in military policy resulted in the reduction of the number of Sarawak Rangers in Malaya from 325 in 1956 to 225 at the end of 1957. The strength of the Ranger Reserve in Sarawak rose to approximately 450. While the normal tour of service for a Sarawak Ranger in the Federation of Malaya remained two years, with the option of an extension of service to three years, certain key Non-Commissioned Officers, who could not be replaced, were allowed to extend their service for a fifth year and the Federation Government made available married quarters for their families.

## PART III





# I

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## GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

**S**ARAWAK lies between latitudes  $0^{\circ} 50'$  and  $5^{\circ}$  North and longitudes  $109^{\circ} 36'$  and  $115^{\circ} 40'$  East, occupying most of the north-western coastal area of the island of Borneo. With an area of about 47,500 square miles the territory covers a little less than one-sixth of the island, which is the third largest in the world and the largest of the 3,000 or more islands comprising the East Indies Archipelago.

The boundary between Sarawak and Indonesian Borneo follows the watershed between the rivers flowing generally north-westerly into the South China Sea and those flowing into the Celebes and the Java Seas. Although much of this watershed is not particularly high the country is generally rugged and topographically complex, and the boundary is unsurveyed. Because of the almost continuous presence of heavy cloud, parts of this boundary and the adjoining Sarawak territory have not yet been covered by satisfactory air photography and only preliminary reconnaissance mapping is available. In the north, Sarawak adjoins North Borneo and in the north-west the State of Brunei forms a double enclave. The boundaries between Sarawak and these two countries run through much easier country and sections have been surveyed as the need has arisen.

Mount Murad, of about 8,000 feet, is Sarawak's highest mountain, dominating an area of practically unexplored ravines, plateaux and involved mountain ranges rising to over 5,000 feet. A little knowledge of this area has been gained by visual reconnaissance from Royal Air Force aircraft and by various expeditions, notably those of the Geological Survey Department and the Oxford University Expedition to the Usun Apau Plateau region in 1956.

The remainder of the country comprises an alluvial coastal plain and a belt of undulating country separating the coastal plain from the sharply rising mountainous interior. The coastal plain varies in width from less than a mile at Miri to over a hundred

miles, and contains large areas of peat swamps of various depths. The beaches are generally of mud and mangrove or nipah palm. The belt of undulating country is broken by a few mountain groups, generally not more than 2,500 feet in height. Shallow coastal waters and the existence of bars at river mouths limit the development of deep sea ports.

The main rivers rise in the interior ranges and flow fast through deep gorges and over numerous rapids until they reach the undulating country and the coastal plains, where they meander towards the sea. In spite of the high rainfall and the steepness of the interior mountains no spectacular waterfalls have yet been discovered, the rivers descending to the undulating country in a series of rapids rather than by waterfalls. The largest river, the Rejang, has a length of 350 miles and is navigable for small coastal steamers as far as Kapit, a hundred and fifty miles up-river.

The greater part of Sarawak is still covered by primary rain forest, and about three-quarters of this is practically uninhabited except for scattered bands of nomadic Penans. Much of the remainder of the land is used for agriculture, but the method of bush fallow farming followed most of the native peoples means that the area of the country actually under cultivation each year is much less than the 11,500 square miles used for agriculture. One distinctive feature of the country is the large areas of swamp forest. These forests produce the bulk of the timber exported, notably *ramin*, one of the main exports and used extensively in Great Britain and Australia for making furniture. There are a few small areas of natural grassland near the coast on which cattle are raised, but grazing land, either natural or developed, is very limited. A shortage of cattle for draught purposes and for meat is most notable in the central and southern parts of the country.

Roads are limited to short stretches radiating from the main centres, but two important highways, linking Kuching with Simanggang and Sarikei with Bintang, are now being built. The construction of minor roads is being carried out as rapidly as funds and labour allow, but water will afford the main means of communication for many years to come. Small coastal steamers call at a few of the main centres and larger overseas ships link the Rejang River ports with Europe and Australia, but the main means of communication is by coastal and river launches which run regular commercial services to every town and village on

the navigable waterways. Outboard motors are used extensively in all but the shallowest streams and these give way to hand-paddled canoes in the upper reaches. There are very few towns, villages or longhouses which cannot be reached by boat.

Air communications are developing rapidly with the construction of more feeder landing grounds, and the V.H.F. network links all towns and main villages with the administrative headquarters of the Division, and thus with Kuching.

### *Principal Towns*

Kuching, the capital, is situated on the Sarawak River eighteen miles from the sea and can be reached by ships of up to 2,500 tons. Besides being the seat of government for Sarawak, Kuching is the administrative headquarters for the First Division. The town is growing rapidly and the population is estimated at about 56,000, of whom the trading community is mainly Chinese, with large Malay and other smaller communities occupying suburban areas. The main part of the town, with its wharves and warehouses, Government offices, museum and other public buildings, schools and places of worship of the various communities, and the main residential areas, is on the south side of the Sarawak River. Access to the north side is mainly by small passenger ferry but vehicles may reach the northern residential areas across the river by a suspension bridge and a minor road. On the north bank of the river directly opposite the centre of the town are situated the Governor's residence, *Astana*, formerly the palace of the Rajahs of Sarawak, and Fort Margherita, another link with old Sarawak. Behind these buildings are residential areas and on the river banks upstream and down are extensive Malay kampongs. The business part of the town and the inner suburbs are administered by a fully-elected Municipal Council and control of the outer suburbs and residential areas is in the hands of the Rural District Council.

Sibu is the second largest town in the territory and is expanding very rapidly. It is situated about eighty miles from the sea at the head of the Rejang Delta and can be reached by ships of up to 2,500 tons. The population is estimated at about 35,000 and the town is the administrative headquarters of the Third Division. It is low-lying and subject to flooding when the spring tides coincide with the arrival of floodwaters from the Rejang catchment areas. The inhabitants of the town are mainly Chinese, with Malay, Iban and Melanau settlements adjoining the business areas. Sibu, with Sarikei and Bintang lower down the

river, handles a large proportion of the import and export trade of the country.

Miri is the administrative headquarters of the Fourth Division and owes its existence to the opening of the Sarawak oilfields in 1910. Although oil is still produced, the neighbouring oilfields of Brunei have become of far greater importance. All the oil won in British Borneo is exported through Lutong, in Sarawak and seven miles north of Miri. The Miri river has a shallow bar which prevents all but small coastal vessels from entering, and the shallow coastal waters force larger ships to anchor about three miles out to sea. General cargo is handled by lighter and oil from the Lutong refinery and storage tanks is loaded through underwater pipelines.

Simanggang and Limbang are the administrative headquarters of the Second and Fifth Divisions respectively. Both have bazaars and wharves for coastal and river launches. Navigation on the Lupar River, on which Simanggang lies, is hampered by a tidal bore.

Binatang and Sarikei are the main towns of the Rejang River delta and are important ports for overseas shipments of pepper, timber and other products of the Rejang River plains. The Tanjong Mani deep water anchorage further down the river can accommodate vessels of up to 10,000 tons.

Of the other towns Bintulu is the largest and development of this coastal town should follow the opening up the hinterland for rubber growing and the completion of an airstrip.

#### CLIMATE

The characteristic features of the climate of Sarawak are heavy rainfall, a uniform temperature and high humidity.

The mean annual rainfall at Kuching is 158 inches. This, compared with London's mean annual of twenty-four inches, New York's forty-two inches, and even Singapore's ninety-five, is tremendous. It is not unusual for rainfall to exceed eight inches in a day at one place (especially during the north-east monsoon) whilst at another place sixty miles away there is no recorded rain. A large area of the country receives between 120 to 160 inches of rain. The highest recorded fall is at Long Akah up the Baram River, with a mean annual rainfall of 236 inches.

The temperature varies between 72°F and 88°F at sea level, with a mean temperature through each twenty-four hours

of 78°F. At 6 a.m. the mean relative humidity for the year is 98 per cent and at 2 p.m. 70 per cent.

From the beginning of October until nearly the end of February, the north-east monsoon brings heavy rainfall, particularly in the coastal belt. The monsoon moves fairly uniformly across the China Seas, but once south of latitude 5° N, its average speed decreases, and at times its boundary may become stationary or even make a temporary retreat. The rain accompanying the boundary may then persist for several days and add substantially to the total rainfall. An exposed coastal belt like Sarawak is therefore heavily influenced by this boundary layer on its southernmost trends, giving a rainfall of twenty inches and more during — usually — November, December and January, whilst areas in Borneo south of Sarawak (except the north-west coasts of Indonesian Borneo) are sheltered from this.

Four seasons can be distinguished: the north-east monsoon — as has been said — from October to January or February; the mild south-east monsoon from April to July or August, and two shorter seasons of about eight weeks each, separating the end of one from the beginning of the other.

During the south-east monsoon, Kuching's mean monthly rainfall is nine inches, mostly in the afternoon between three and six o'clock. At Miri during the same period the heaviest rain is from thunderstorms of sharp intensity during the early hours after midnight. During these months particularly, the form and movement of storms makes it doubtful that a single observation station in a given area, say Miri Town, is at all representative of rainfall in the immediate surroundings. There are insufficient observation stations in concentrated areas to make isohyetal patterns associated with individual storms. Yet it is from these thunderstorms that the heavy rainfall comes.

In spite of the heavy rains, there are long periods of bright sunshine. From March to October there are usually between 180 and 220 hours of bright sunshine each month. From November to February, there are between 100 and 180 hours of bright sunshine monthly.

There is no weather forecasting office. There are three meteorological observation stations and forty-three rainfall recording stations.

Appendix F, on pages 197 to 199, gives climatological summaries for Kuching, Miri and Bintulu.

## II

### GEOLOGY

SARAWAK is composed mainly of recently formed rocks. The oldest formations are only about 300 million years old, and so barely one-sixth of the world's recorded geological history is represented here. The most ancient rocks in Borneo are in the west where "Sunda land", a partly submerged extension of continental Asia, builds part of the island. Sarawak includes some of this area, and in the country are found most of the main rock formations which build Borneo, so her geological history is a miniature history of the whole island. Palaeozoic rocks occur, but Mesozoic and Tertiary deposits predominate; the most extensive and complete formation is the Tertiary, and here is found one of the fullest successions of these deposits in the world. A brief description of the main rock groups appeared in the 1955 Report. A revised estimate of the geological make-up is as follows:—

<i>Formation</i>	<i>Area in square miles</i>
QUATERNARY	7,100
TERTIARY	{ Neogene 13,000
	{ Palaeogene 18,600
CRETACEOUS	5,000
CRETACEOUS AND JURASSIC	860
TRIASSIC	455
PERMIAN AND CARBONIFEROUS	270
PRE-CARBONIFEROUS (?)	15
IGNEOUS	1,700

### GEOLOGICAL MAPPING

Geological information is now available for more than half of the country. The year marked the completion of two large regional surveys and the extension of regional surveys over the whole country. These cover interior, mountainous, mainly forest-covered country. The largest, 16,000 square miles of the Rejang

headwaters, is described in a memoir, *The Geology and Mineral Resources of the Upper Rejang and Adjacent Areas*. This area is sparsely populated and consists mostly of jungle-clad mountain ranges, and only Royal Air Force assistance in parachuting food supplies to the geological field parties made it possible for the work to be finished. Extensive new coal deposits were found and as communications develop they may be workable. Gold was recorded in the area for the first time, but there are no indications that the two occurrences are of economic interest. The second survey covers about 3,340 square miles of the Lupar Valley and is described in the memoir *The Geology and Mineral Resources of the Lupar and Saribas Valleys*. This area is one of considerable scientific interest in working out the geology of the island. A coloured geological sketch-map of Borneo on a scale of 1:2,000,000 was also prepared and published during the year, and appears to be the first coloured geological compilation map of the whole island to be issued in this century.

Three new regional surveys covering about 23,000 square miles were started. The first area is the lower Rejang valley and adjoining areas, the second is the Suai-Baram area, and the third is north-eastern Sarawak, which is being surveyed at the same time as the State of Brunei. Over 200 geological sketch-maps and figures have now been issued, many in colours, together with numerous reports and memoirs.

#### ECONOMIC GEOLOGY

Economically the year was significant as it marked the start of a new industry, bauxite mining, and the first ocean drilling tests for oil on the continental shelf. The gold industry, as elsewhere in recent years, has barely survived. Arrangements were made for a mining land classification survey of the Bau mining area, which will allow areas which may contain gold and other minerals to remain available for mining, and for a consultant to study the process by which gold is extracted from the ore (which commonly contains antimony and arsenic) on the small Chinese mines. There is a chance that recent technological advances may be applicable to the processes used and make a high extraction possible. Geological information was thus widely used to help develop the country's resources. Geologists also co-operated with Public Works engineers on civil engineering projects, such as the search for stone, underground water supplies,



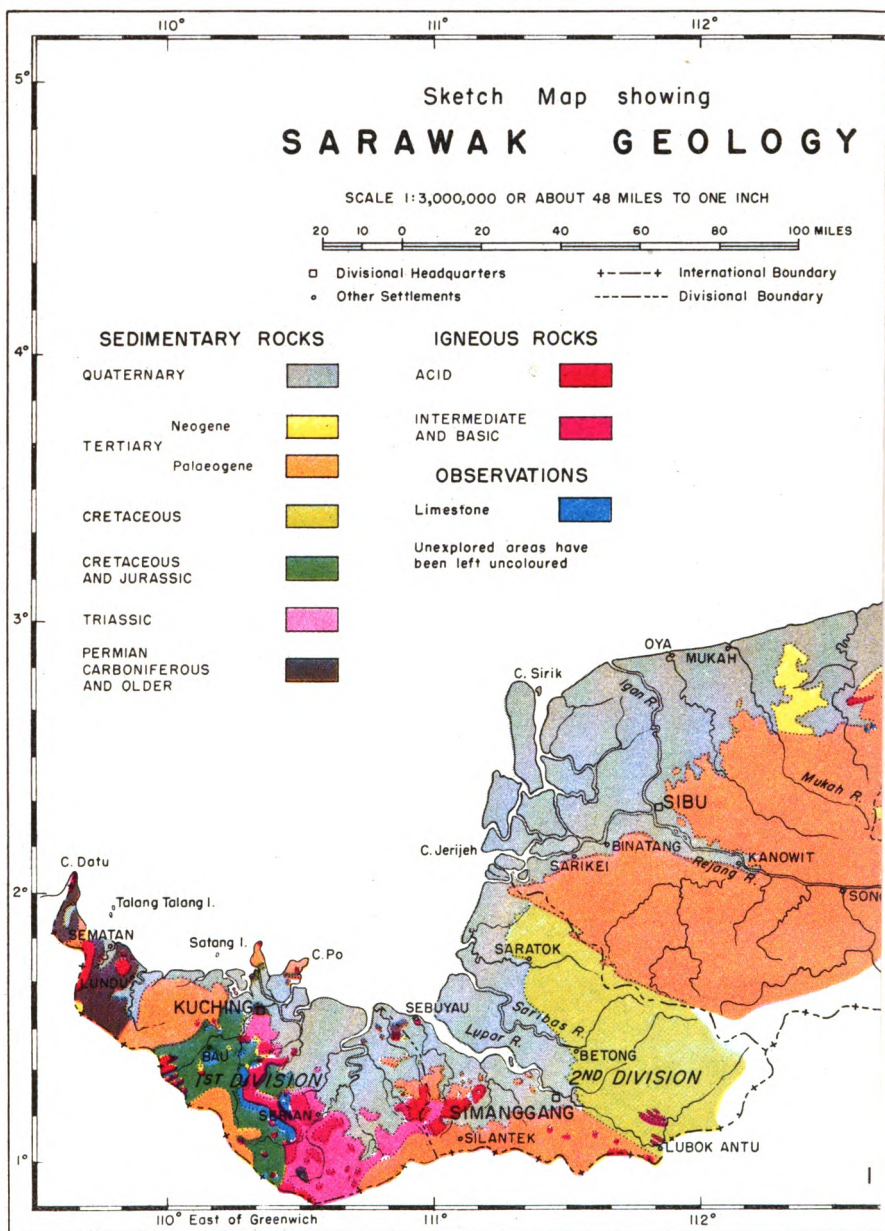
and the examination of bridge foundations and dam sites. The output of stone from the Batu Gading limestone quarry in east Sarawak increased, — the possibilities of quarrying here were indicated a few years ago and outlined in earlier reports. Along the stone-short coastal area of north Sarawak the quarry sites at Batu Gading and its neighbourhood contain at least 10,000,000 cubic yards of limestone. Preliminary tests indicate this limestone can be used for making Portland cement, and a search is now being made for suitable shale or clay in the Kuala Baram or Kuala Belait area for use in cement manufacture. The limestone can be carried by river to Kuala Baram, which is near the natural-gas pipe-line from the oilfields and is in a rich but stone-short area where some of the most rapid development in the Far East is taking place.

The main search of oil by Sarawak Oilfields Limited was in the continental shelf area beneath the South China Sea. Some eight miles out at sea, at Siwa, south-west of Miri, a marine platform was built and two test holes drilled to 5,036 and 7,680 feet respectively. The beds in which the oil occurs on the mainland were met, but oil was not found. A mobile marine drilling barge is now being built and will be used to test further favourable parts of the 55,000 square miles of the continental shelf. Mineral products exported in 1957 reached almost \$377,000,000, a record, and exceeded seventy-five per cent of the value of products shipped from Sarawak.

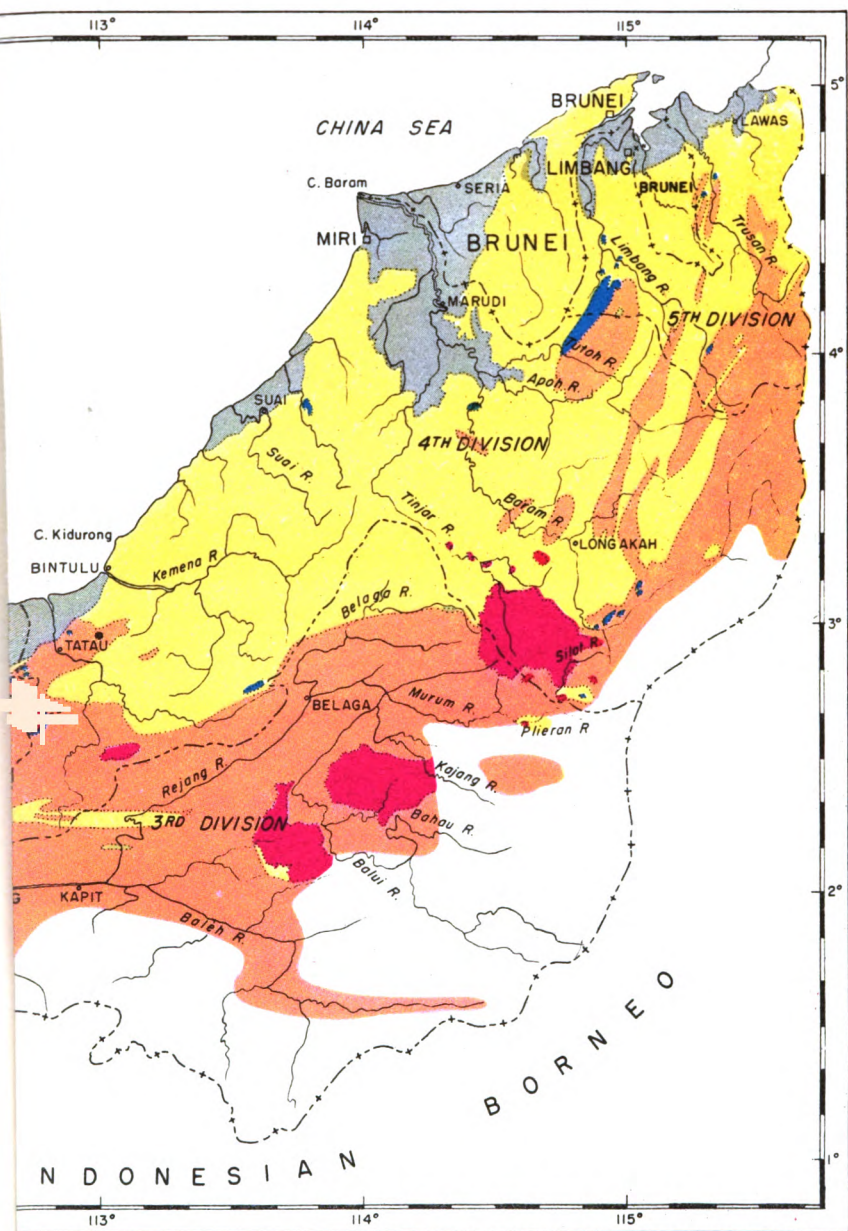
#### GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DEPARTMENT

The Geological Survey office in Kuching is the headquarters of the combined Department for British Borneo, and from there geological work is directed over the 80,000 square miles of the three countries. It is also the base from which the geological mapping of Sarawak is made, expeditions going into the jungle for trips ranging from a few weeks to several months. Advisory work for the Government and the public is also undertaken. The headquarters include a museum, library and laboratory, and during 1957 numerous visitors examined the displays, which give a good idea of the country's geological and mineral resources. Attached to the museum is a geological reference library and a collection of past geological and mineral exploration records, providing valuable information for those undertaking mining, building new roads, constructing dams, or searching for underground water.

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SARAWAK GEOLOGICAL OFFICE MAP 96 BY F.W.ROE



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DEPARTMENT, BRITISH TERRITORIES IN BORNEO, 1954

### III

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#### HISTORY

##### I — PREHISTORY

###### *Stone Age*

**D**URING 1957 work continued on sorting out the results of the earlier excavations at Niah Caves, in the Fourth Division. A preliminary analysis of results and outstanding problems—based on partial but careful digging in one section of the great caves' mouth—was partly undertaken to give information of a general character and partly to clarify problems for further and fuller research in the caves.

Until now there has been practically *no* scientifically reliable evidence on the early history of man in Sarawak or in Borneo generally.

In Java and in South China during the past few years, the remains of very early forms of man have been discovered. Some of these so-called "paleolithic" men—living in the earliest stage of human development, with the very crudest stone implements and nothing else to distinguished man from the animal—date back something like one million years.

Geologists and archaeologists have often suggested that the great island of Borneo must also contain fossilised remains of the same character. There are various reasons for thinking this should be so. One reason is that Java and Borneo were one connected land mass in earlier times, and it is only quite recently—from the geologist's point of view—that Borneo has become a separate island. In the same way, one of the three large apes and nearest surviving ancestors to man in the world today, the orang-utang, is found only in Borneo and Sumatra, which was part of this same land mass in the past.

As early as the 1880s, following the great arguments of evolution and Darwinism, the Royal Society in London sent an investigator to explore Borneo caves and river beds in search of evidence of early man. Those were the days when everybody looked for the "missing link". But, as far as Borneo is concerned, the result was a total blank.

Since then, there has been much speculation and various unsuccessful (though rather feeble) searches. Not only did these fail to prove the presence of very early man, the cousin of Java Man or Peking Man, but there was not even any evidence of Later Stone Age people, the developed descendants of very early man who, in historic times, entered the metal age of today.

In 1947, the Sarawak Museum began to make more organised and prolonged efforts to fill in some of the missing bits of knowledge. The first problem was to know where to begin. That is always much the most difficult thing in this sort of investigation in this sort of country. There are virtually no permanent open spaces in Borneo. Sooner or later, everything reverts to jungle, every building is overthrown and every grave disturbed by the forces of nature. The obvious place therefore to begin an investigation of this sort is in a cave. The mouths of caves provide the only bits of dry ground in Borneo which never get over-grown by vegetation; and only occasionally are they disturbed by the innumerable burrowing animals and insects of the jungle.

Unfortunately, however, human beings like caves just as much nowadays as their ancestors are supposed to have done in the past. The caves of Borneo provide two tremendous attractions. On the vast ceilings of the caves there are millions of bats and tiny swiftlets which, with their salivary glands, make cup-like nests; these, suitably cleaned, dried, and boiled are the basis of Chinese birds' nest soup—one of the most expensive of foods. On the floor of the caves these same swifts plus bats deposit an endless supply of guano; in some caves this may reach a depth of more than 100 feet. This guano is the only locally available fertiliser in Borneo.

In consequence, most unfortunately for the archaeologist, the floors of practically every cave in the island have been not only disturbed, but a large extent removed, by man.

In the early cave explorations, which were undertaken by the Museum in conjunction with Raffles Museum of Singapore, more than thirty caves were examined and excavated in the Bau district. Although a mass of interesting information about early occupants of the caves was obtained, it was invariably rather chaotic because of disturbance. The answers were exciting but unsatisfactory, stimulating but incomplete.

It was not until Sarawak Oilfields Limited had started drilling in the Niah river area that occasion arose to visit there and make a thorough preliminary examination of the great cave a mile back from the Niah river in the limestone hills of Gunong Subis. Even a cursory inspection of the ground showed immediate evidence of human remains, and here there was something unique. Because the cave mouth is so huge, both by height and width, it is also much lighter than any of the other caves, even including the very big ones in Mount Mulu on the Tutoh, further north in Sarawak. So much light in the cave mouth means that swifts and bats do not frequent that area—and only live further in where it is 'good and dark'. There is therefore no reason for anyone to start messing about on the ceiling or digging anything up off the floor; there are no birds' nests and there is no guano in the mouth of the Niah cave.

So, with high hope, feeling at least they had found the right cave, the Director of the Raffles Museum (Michael Tweedie), photographer Hugh Gibb and a Sarawak Museum party began a more thorough, but still reconnaissance, excavation in the Niah cave mouth in October 1954.

Only two sections of the cave mouth were explored—one in towards the darkness, the other right out in the mouth and in the full light (but still well protected from rain and wind).

This difference between the outer and inner mouth was reflected in what was found. On the inner side, the whole cave floor appears to be nothing less than a stone-age cemetery. The skeletons were in some cases quite perfect, small people—smaller than the people who live round Niah today. On or beside the bodies were placed stone implements, including some beautifully made and polished stone axes and adzes. The head of the skeleton was usually crushed in, with a large, crude

home-made earthen-ware pot placed as a sort of second head piece. The body had been laid out on coarse leaf matting, then wrapped round (in some cases but not all) with very fine netting—the texture and mesh of a child's shrimping net.

This matting and netting, although extremely primitive, is nevertheless the first stuff of its kind ever found associated with stone age burials or occupations in this part of the world. It suggests that this group of stone age people at Niah were in some ways remarkably advanced as compared with those discovered under similar conditions elsewhere. But it is necessary to recognise here that the conditions at Niah are extraordinarily favourable to preservation over many centuries; and we are now talking about matting which must have been made probably many hundreds, perhaps many thousands, of years ago.

The cave mouth is so perfectly dry, and the limestone walls act as a kind of air conditioning in the cave—making it, incidentally, one of the most delightful places to work in and the only one in Borneo where we have ever been able to keep cool while digging. So it is possible that these finer things of primitive life have only been found, so far, at Niah because the conditions for preservation are so excellent there.

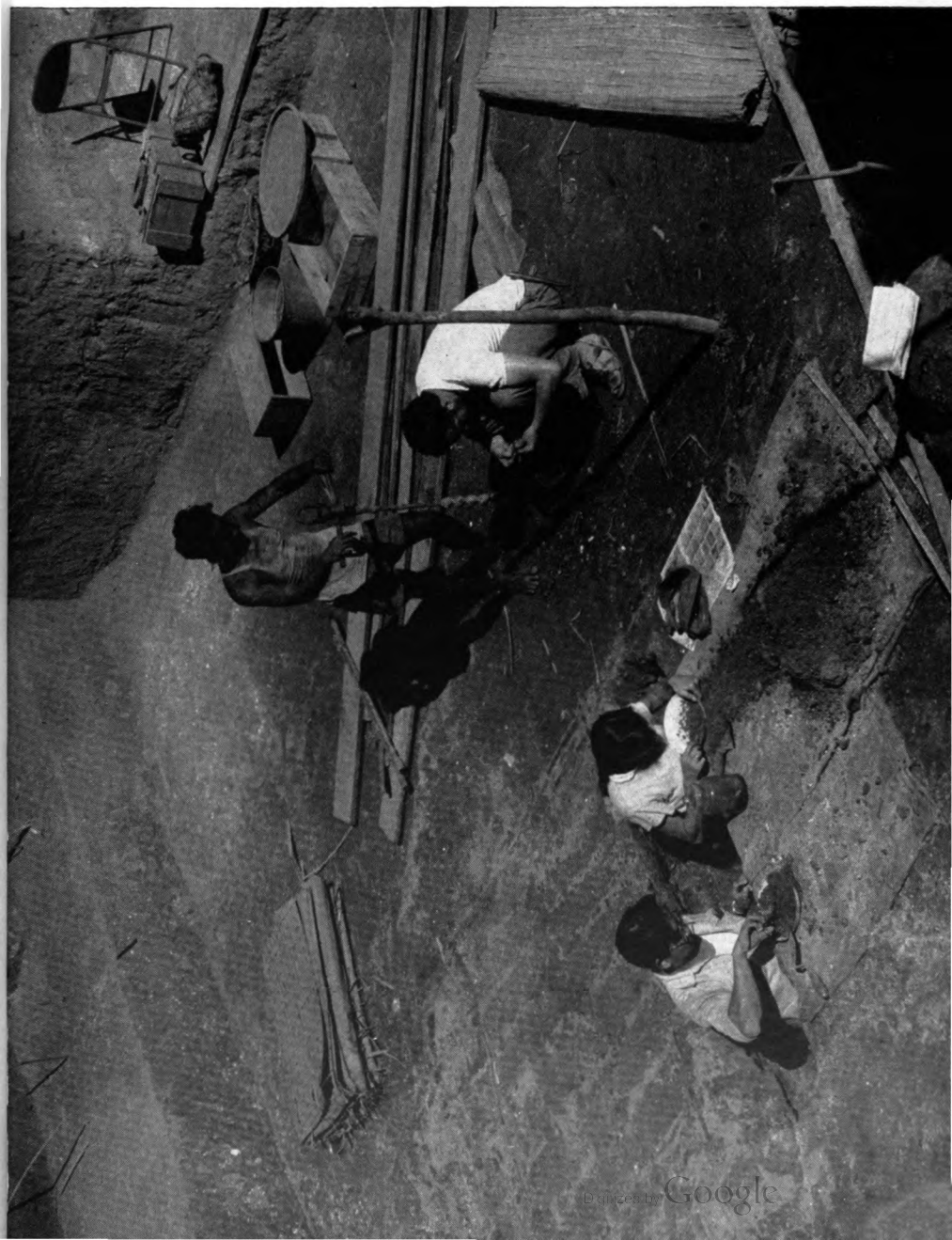
But in support of the belief that the people themselves were quite advanced, although still living in the stone age, there is the evidence of the already mentioned earthen-ware pottery. Some of this is of better make and finer finish than similar pots which are still being made today by the Dayaks in the Balleh, the Kelabits in the uplands and other Borneo people who live too far away from Chinese shops to be able to carry metal cooking-pots and water-containers. An astonishing feature of some of the Niah pottery—astonishing anyway to a student of these things—is the presence of three colours, applied as a sort of glaze. These colours appears to have been obtained by the use of different clays, charcoal and iron ore haemitite. But this suggests an advanced kind of craftsmanship, which in fact has subsequently vanished; and which has so far not been found anywhere else, amongst stone age people, in South-East Asia.

The haemitite iron ore is another feature of the Niah stone age. Curiously enough, in widely separate parts of the world, (including Europe and America), primitive man discovered and used haemitite to cover the corpses of the dead. In Niah this



Excavation  
in progress at Niah  
Caves, in the  
Fourth Division,  
under the direc-  
tion of Mr. T. H.  
Harrison, D.S.O.,  
Curator of the  
Sarawak Museum

(Sarawak Museum)





Portaging a *perahu* down the Tawak Rapids of the Tutoh River in the Fourth Division. It is unusual for these rapids to be so turbulent as to make portage necessary. The lighter-coloured strips of wood are extra walls put on for the journey down to strengthen the boat, and thrown away at the foot of the rapids

(I. A. N. Urquhart)



vivid scarlet and magenta haemitite powder has been scattered in clouds over the cemetery.

Further out, in the full light of the outer cave mouth, there are no more burials but all the evidences of dwelling and everything living. This second story is also enormously longer in time than the first (the cemetery). For it seems, from what we know so far—to have been confined to the later part of the stone age.

It is difficult (until certain tests are completed) to know how late this is. From other studies it is believed that the stone age ended very early in Borneo as compared with some adjacent lands. But it is probably fair to put this Niah cemetery somewhere about the early part of the Christian era or earlier.

Be that as it may, this later stone age, with well polished stone implements, admirable coloured pottery, primitive but enduring weaving of a sort, and careful respect for the dead, represents only the very surface in the succession of the cave occupation from its beginning.

Out in the cave mouth, these advanced stone age signs are confined to the top few inches of a continued, man-made deposit, going down for many feet. Under this surface layer, immediately recognisable by the presence of pottery and polished tools, we almost at once come into a much simpler human set up. Pottery and polished tools now vanish altogether, and with them, of course, any suggestion or expectation of matting or anything else of that kind. At a couple of feet down, another age. A day of careful digging can go back 1,000 years, a week perhaps another 10,000.

In 1957 the 1954 Niah excavations were resumed and largely extended. Also charcoal and bone samples were carefully taken at suitable layers in the main habitation deposit, outside the cemetery. Preliminary reports on some of these, tested at the University of Groningen in Holland by Professor Hl. de Vries, give dates going back as far as 40,000 years or so. We do not yet know enough of the effects of tropical climate on the C14 factor in carbon, but clearly—whatever the margins of error—the Niah excavations (to be continued on a larger scale in 1958) are getting far back into the past, and in the most orderly succession yet known in South-east Asia.

So far, the Niah excavation has not gone effectively below 100", and most of the work has been done above 72". But early results in the deeper levels suggest the possibility of even more important finds down there. Several primitive stone chopping tools of hand-axe type has been found, closely resembling those from the Sohan culture in north-west India, generally regarded as fully paleolithic. Among the large quantities of animal bone in food remains are several items of special interest, which have been preliminarily examined by Professor G. H. R. von Koenigswald, discoverer of "Java Man", who has been officially invited to visit the caves with the Curator. These remains include elephant and wild buffalo, not previously known to have occurred in Sarawak, huge orang-utans, and a very large kind of pig.

A preliminary report on the 1957 season was published by the Royal Anthropological Institute in *Man* for November and attracted wide interest. A half-hour film of the excavations in progress was also shown on BBC Television and received the exceptionally high "popularity rating" of seventy-eight. This is one of a series of six films, dealing with aspects of scientific and anthropological studies in Sarawak, directed and photographed by Mr. Hugh Gibb. They have been well received in Britain and will shortly be seen in many other countries. The Niah one was also shown at the 1957 Pacific Science Congress in Bangkok, and widely inside Sarawak, thus arousing interest in and support for this type of investigation into the past.

Much of this work has been made possible by the generous aid of Brunei Shell Petroleum Company and Sarawak Oilfields Limited. In November the Gulbenkian Foundation of Lisbon announced a grant \$53,000.00 to the Sarawak Museum to further the cave studies at Niah.

### *Ceramic Age*

The archaeological work on *later than stone-age* began in earnest by the Sarawak Museum in the delta during 1952. Each year it is bringing in more and more evidence, very slowly but fairly surely, on the early history and pre-history of the coastal plan in human terms. This story is very different from that of the inland.

During 1957 progress was made in continued exploration of the Sarawak River delta and the south-west coastline as far as Tanjong Datu on the Indonesian Border. Between Tanjong Datu and Sempadi thirteen prehistoric sites have now been located, proved and surveyed, but not yet excavated. Further east, around Santubong, five main sites have been partially (about one per cent) excavated so far. In 1956 a cemetery of about 1,000 A.D. or earlier was located and excavated on Tanjong Tegok, a small headland half a mile east of Santubong Rest House. Some very fine pieces of T'ang (618-906 A.D.) Chinese stoneware and porcelain were found. At the same time, a mile across the bay, on another headland, Tanjong Kubor (beside the village of Pasir Pandak), a larger and apparently more "proletarian" burial ground has been studied. Here quantities of earthenware of Indian type, as well as Chinese stoneware and porcelain of the early T'ang were found, along with ancient beads, gold objects and a coin of about 625 A.D.

During the year several distinguished visitors came to the Santubong sites. Mr. John Pope, world authority on ceramics from the Freer Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., spent a week in active co-operation with the Museum excavation team. He was able to see much material new to him, and has since written and spoken widely on these researches to audiences in England and America.

The results of this work are being reported upon fully in the *Sarawak Museum Journal* (issued twice a year). So far, they do little more than indicate! What they do, however, already *clearly* indicate is a very extensive trade contact and occupation (perhaps inter-monsoonal only) by Chinese more than a thousand years ago and on to the Sung Dynasty (ended 1279 A.D.).

Two of these Santubong sites, Sungai Ja'ong at the foot of Santubong mountain and Sungai Buah in the present-day durian orchard across river, each stretch for half a mile or more along what are now narrow creeks in the swamp, only navigable in a small boat at high tide; both once formed main branches of the Sarawak River, since silted-up—a process that continues to this day, so that the Santubong main branch up which the first Rajah Brooke and all 19th century vessels sailed is now navigable only to launches on the tide.

We cannot yet tell for certain what it was that these traders of a thousand years ago sought. But early Chinese annals put a high value on rhinoceros horn, hornbill ivory, edible bird's nests, gums and spices, as well as gold and precious stones, all here available.

Gold has long been worked in the area extending from Kuching south westward to Sambas and Montrado in West Borneo. Though the production of this area is insignificant in comparison with the present world output, it must, if Borneo gold was known in the days of the great Indian trading expedition, have been of considerable importance in the ancient world. The fabulous Golden Chersonese may well have included Western Borneo.

It is likely that for a time Sarawak fell under the sway of the great maritime empire of Srivijaya, the Indian Buddhist thasassocracy centered on southern Sumatra, which reached its zenith towards the end of the twelfth century. Srivijaya fell about a century later before the attacks of Siam and the Hindu-Javanese kingdom of Majapahit, and Borneo came within the sphere of influence of the latter. The Majapahit empire in its turn began to crumble early in the fifteenth century before the Muslim States established by the advance of Islam into the archipelago. On these aspects, research continues.

After the fall of Majapahit, Sarawak formed part of the dominions of the Malay Sultan of Brunei, and it is first known to us by name through the visits to Brunei of Pigafetta in 1521, of Jorge de Menezes in 1526, of Gonsalvo Pereira in 1530, and from an early map of the East Indies by Mercator. Sarawak was then the name of a place on the river of the same name. Kuching did not exist.

## II — HISTORY

The history of Sarawak as an integral State begins with the first landing in August, 1839, of James Brooke. At that time Sarawak was the southern province of the Brunei Sultanate. The oppression of the Sultan's viceroy, Makota, had goaded into revolt the Malays and Land Dayaks resident in the area known as Sarawak Proper, and the Sultan had sent his uncle, the Rajah

Muda Hassim, to pacify the country. The insurgents were led by Datu Patinggi Ali. James Brooke departed after a short stay and returned in 1840, to find the fighting still in progress. At the request of the Rajah Muda Hassim, he interceded in the dispute, brought about a settlement, and was rewarded for his services by being installed on the 24th September, 1841, as Rajah of the territory from Cape Datu to the Samarahan River. This, however is but a small part of the total area which was later contained within the State of Sarawak.

For the remaining twenty-three years of his life Rajah Brooke devoted himself to the suppression of piracy and head hunting, often with the help of ships of the Royal Navy, which performed almost incredible feats of navigation and endurance. It is a story of high adventure, financial difficulty, and political persecution at home by the Radical party, followed by complete vindication and success. Sarawak was recognised as an independent State by the United States of America in 1850, and Great Britain granted recognition in effect by appointing a British Consul in 1864. In 1861 the territory of Sarawak was enlarged by the Sultan's cession of all the rivers and lands from the Sadong River to Kidurong Point.

Sir James Brooke, at his death in 1868, bequeathed to his nephew and successor, Charles Brooke, a country paternally governed, with a solid foundation of mutual trust and affection between ruler and ruled.

The first Rajah pioneered, subdued and pacified; Sir Charles Brooke, in a long reign of fifty years, built with such conspicuous success upon the foundations laid by his uncle that piracy disappeared, head-hunting was greatly reduced and the prosperity of the country increased by leaps and bounds.

Further large accretions of territory occurred in 1882, when the frontier was advanced beyond the Baram River; in 1885 when the valley of the Trusan River was ceded; and in 1890, when the Limbang River region was annexed at the request of the inhabitants. In 1905 the Lawas River area was purchased from the British North Borneo Company with the consent of the British Government. British protection was accorded to Sarawak in 1888.



Between 1870 and 1917 the revenue rose from \$122,842 to \$1,705,292 and the expenditure from \$126,161 to \$1,359,746. The public debt was wiped out and a considerable surplus was built up. In 1870 imports were valued at \$1,494,241 and exports at \$1,328,963. In 1917 imports totalled \$4,999,320 and exports \$6,283,071. Roads had been constructed, piped water supplies laid down and a dry dock opened in Kuching. There were telephones, and the wireless telegraph was opened to international traffic.

The third Rajah, Sir Charles Vyner Brooke, succeeded his father in 1917, and progress continued in all spheres. Head-hunting, as a result of tireless efforts, was reduced to sporadic proportions, revenue increased, enhanced expenditure resulted in improved medical and educational services, and in 1941, the centenary year of Brooke rule, the State was in a sound economic position with a large sum of money in reserve. As a centenary gesture, the Rajah enacted a new constitution, which abrogated his absolute powers and set the feet of his people on the first stage of the road to democratic self-government.

Then came the Japanese invasion and occupation. Social services and communications were neglected; education ceased; health precautions were ignored; sickness and malnutrition spread throughout the State. The people had been reduced to poverty and misery when, after the unconditional surrender of Japan, the Australian forces entered Kuching on 11th September, 1945.

For seven months Sarawak was administered by a British Military Administration, as a result of whose efforts supplies of essential commodities were distributed, the constabulary re-formed and the medical and educational services reorganised.

The Rajah resumed the administration of the State on the 15th April, 1946. It had, however, for some time been evident to him that greater resources and more technical and scientific experience than he then commanded were needed to restore to Sarawak even a semblance of her former prosperity. He therefore decided that the time had come to hand the country over to the care of the British Crown, and a Bill to this effect was introduced into the Council Negri in May, 1946 and passed by a small majority. By an Order-in-Council the State became a British Colony on the 1st July, 1946.

## IV

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### SCIENCE AND THE ARTS

**K**NOWLEDGE of Sarawak's human and natural sciences advanced considerably during the year, especially in the fields of archaeology (already mentioned), anthropology, and ornithology.

#### *Arts and crafts*

Special efforts were made during the year — and will be continued — to encourage and preserve native arts and crafts and to record folklore and customs before these disappear. It is something of a losing struggle, however.

Borneo has its own very vital arts and crafts. Inevitably these are threatened by the greatly accelerated and sometimes uncontrolled impact of Western civilisation. In particular, the influence of Government education and of Mission activities has very generally been to create with extreme rapidity a new set of values the significance of which is often imperfectly understood by the native peoples most affected. Ten years ago every young Kenyah, Kayan or Kelabit was proud of his leopard teeth ear-rings (if he was fortunate enough to possess them) and his tattoos. Today these fashions are in many areas being replaced by short hair, short trousers and skin clear of any design except vaccination.

The traditional systems of independent craftsmanship, of embroidered bark-jackets, fine beads, carved bone hairpins, ornate symbolic figures in wood, and decorated pipes, are threatened with early extinction. The old Ming jar and the Sung celadon plate, heirlooms of yesterday, are now shadowed by the refrigerator, the bicycle and the gramophone.

It is against this background that the thoughtful have to teach in the aesthetic field. There is nothing they can teach of carving, metal-working, design and weaving. The people do — or



did — know it all uniquely. The young people no longer want it; better to buy cloth than make it, to use a \$2.00 parang knife instead of a finely wrought one from the Batang Kayan. On the other hand, efforts to teach western art, painting in perspective, and such like, are not at this stage producing results. This is a fairly familiar dilemma where West teaches East so fast, and one that has seldom been solved at all effectively.

Further good work was done in the more limited field of “western” art, by the Kuching Art Club. The members are Chinese, Malay and European and they work in mixed styles not related to the Dayak aesthetic.

### *The Sarawak Museum and Sarawak culture*

The Sarawak Museum concentrated on collecting all it could, both material objects of aesthetic value and the verbal material of legend and local history. In 1956 a Museum unit visited the great Baram centre of wood-carving on the Tinjar, purchased specimens and stimulated interest among the young. Another unit spent some six months in the field, recording songs and stories from elderly people. Special progress was made with Iban (Sea Dayak) and Meting-Bisaya ethnology.

The museum itself was established by the second Rajah, Sir Charles Brooke, in 1886, and is the only museum in Borneo. Standing in beautiful grounds in Kuching, it has the best collection of Borneo arts and crafts in the world, and is a great attraction both to tourists and to local institutions. Of the many visitors during 1957, about a quarter were Dayaks, a third Malays, a third Chinese and the rest European and other races. School children accompanied by their teachers came in increasing numbers. The two stuffed orang-utans, the snakes, the big whale skeleton and the human heads interest the young, while the photographs of Kuching in the past and the crafts collection especially attract the older visitors.

### *The New Museum Building*

The new building completed late in 1956 has been gradually occupied. There is still some work to do on this, but already much improved facilities for research workers and students are available — and in increasing use. The New and Old Buildings — the latter for public display exhibits exclusively — now form,

with the Sarawak Library, a pleasant and harmonious unit and the heart of a lively cultural centre in the attractive heart of Kuching.

In making these new arrangements, the Curator has been greatly assisted by thirteen voluntary part-time Honorary Curators. This system, developed for the first time in 1956, has proved highly successful so far. Thus the Honorary Curator of Birds, a senior Forestry Officer, was able to complete the reorganisation of our valuable bird collections and to produce, largely on this basis, as a full-length study, his *Checklist of Borneo Birds*, published during 1957 as a special issue of the *Sarawak Museum Journal* (No. 9). The Honorary Curator of Stamps (until recently Chairman of the Kuching Municipal Council, and now Resident, Fourth Division) was able to revise, and catalogue, the collections and to fill most of the main gaps therein through an appeal in the *Sarawak Specialist*, to which philatelists from Europe and America responded most generously. And so on...

### *The Archives*

Special attention has been paid to strengthening the country's archives, housed in the Museum. These include a wealth of original Brooke material. A beginning has also been made, in co-operation with Radio Sarawak, towards establishing Sound Archives — on permanent tape — for the future. A well-equipped dark room in the New Building improves facilities for the Photographic Archives which have also been augmented by the deposit of the original coloured film of the Brooke centenary and by generous gifts of documentary photographs from the Borneo Company and Mr. Hugh Gibb.

### *Anthropological Studies*

The main anthropological work during 1957 has been the carrying forward of a full length survey of Malay Communities in the South-west of Sarawak. This is the last of a series of "socio-economic" studies carried out with the aid of Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

Already published are the studies of Land Dayaks (Dr. W. R. Geddes), Sea Dayaks (Dr. Derek Freeman), Melanaus (Dr. H. S. Morris) and Sarawak Chinese (Dr. T'ien). The Kelabits of the far

interior are the subject of a long-term study separately. The Malay Survey completes the project. This has been undertaken by the Government Ethnologist, with valued assistance from University of Malaya students.

This Malay Survey will cover a longer period of time than the others and is being prepared in four main parts—dealing with Malay Coastal and Swamp Activities, Inland and Town Malays, Sea and River Fishing, and lastly a general account of Sarawak Malay culture, custom, and belief as a whole. A full length report on the first of these was completed during the year and is now with the printers.

#### *Expeditions and Experts*

The flow of visiting scientists and students continued unabated. Among these were a number of distinguished visitors to the Niah Cave excavations, including Mrs. R. E. Hales, Dr. Steven Runciman, our old friend Mr. M. W. F. Tweedie (lately Director of the Raffles Museum, Singapore), Mr. Hugh Gibb for BBC television and Dr. Freek van Veen, a Shell palaeontologist who rendered very valuable aid during the digging.

## V

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### FLORA AND FAUNA

**T**HIS chapter aims to give some general idea of the natural life of the country, as well as indicating special points of interest in 1957.

Apart from the coastal plains of swamp forest, Sarawak is dominated by mountains and hills, each altitude, with varied forms of plant and animal life, meeting to form a tangled mass over the whole interior. Between dusk and dawn, the jungle is alive with the noise of thousands of insects. There are more than six hundred kinds of birds, more than a hundred species of mammals. Everywhere there is vigorous life going on all the year round. There is no rest for fauna or flora; plants grow all the time, animals do not hibernate; activity has no end.

#### *Flora*

High temperatures with little variation coupled with an annual rainfall between 100 and 180 inches, make for an ever-present greenness. The old leaves fall after the new ones have grown. This greenness is made up of an enormous number of different kinds of plants with violently different characteristics and habits of growth. Epiphytic life is apparent wherever there are trees. Almost every tree supports other forms of plants, mostly ferns and orchids using the tree as host, but not "living off" the tree like parasites.

There are several hundred species of orchids, mostly living on trees, and not being horticultural wonders or difficult to cultivate. Many have most beautiful flowers, and can be seen in gardens throughout the country. Some orchids, such as *phalaenopsis amabilis*, have leaves six inches or so long and an inflorescence of more than three feet with white and yellow flowers, and live on trees. Others have roots in the ground with the tip of the plant growing indefinitely, and aerial roots clinging to forest trees to support their climb to the roof of the forest,

where they flower. Such a plant is *vanda Hookeriana*. Its natural habitat is the swamp forest, but it is seen in many gardens, growing up and above four-foot posts and flowering continuously.

In the dry season from April to September some jungle trees bear edible fruit. One looks like the English chestnut with a centre tasting not unlike an avocado pear; another is the luscious durian, weighing two or three pounds and much loved by many people.

Beneath the great forest trees there are thousands of other plants: beautifully coloured small foliage plants, terrestrial and epiphytic ferns of all shapes and sizes, mosses, gingers of all sorts, and many others. In the clearings and along river banks there are flowering shrubs, with pink and yellow their dominating colours.

It is often supposed that the jungle contains a great number of parasitic plants. This is not so. There are a few parasites, of which the most important are members of the mistletoe family. The unusual and huge *Rafflesia* is a parasite. It has no stem or leaves. Only the flower is visible, with strands of tissue growing inside the living substance of its host, usually woody climbers of the vine family. There are three known species of *Rafflesia* in Malaysia. The largest, *Rafflesia Arnoldii*, has five petal-like organs and in the centre a basin-shaped cavity large enough to bath a baby in.

Another unusual plant is the pitcher plant (*nepenthes*). These are climbers, usually in open country. They turn the tables on insects, especially ants, by snaring, drowning, and digesting them. This is one of the few circumstances in which a plant eats an insect, and gets its own back. Many species of *nepenthes* exist among the mountainous and lowland groups. Some have small pitchers of one inch and some large, of sixteen inches. The pitcher consists of body, rim and lid. Within the body a liquid is produced that digests the insects. The inner surface of the pitcher is slippery, and once an insect is attracted by the beautiful colours or the sugary secretions round the inside of the rim, it has little chance of escape.

A feature of Sarawak is the specialised flora of the moss forests with their dwarf vegetation. These occur in various parts of the country in mountain ranges above 3,000 feet. Layer upon

layer of moss and dripping water abound, and the whole is in perpetual dampness.

During the year two scientific expeditions studied these upper montane zones. A number of species new to science were found but the full results have not yet been worked out.

### *Fauna*

Perhaps the most dramatic place and easiest way to see into the teeming life of the island is to step out of the jungle and go into one of the great caves which honeycomb for miles wherever there is an outcrop of limestone; at Mt. Mulu on the Tutoh; around Long Akar on the Baram; inland from Bintulu at Gunong Subis at Niah; and in many small hills behind Bau, above Kuching. Niah, already referred to, in Chapter III of Part II, as the classic Borneo stone-age site, is the largest, loveliest, and fullest of life. Its principal inhabitants are roughly 1,000,000 bats and 1,000,000 swiftlets. And when the bats go out and the swiftlets come home at dusk it is difficult even to control your mind to millions. It is hard to imagine there are so many of any one animal in the whole world, let alone one cave. The bats are of several kinds, some the size of a crow, others of a sparrow. Into the night they go to forage the air of the jungle. The swiftlets (of the genus *collocalia*) are probably of three kinds, have tiny bodies and scimitar wings. Their nests they make of saliva excreted from special glands. These are the birds' nests of soup fame, prime delicacy of the Chinese gourmet. They are exported in quantity, the best quality (pure saliva) fetching as much as £10 a pound.

These swiftlets, who take their food as tiny beetles in and over the jungle canopy, work for man in two ways. One end salivates the nests; the other gives droppings of beetle elytra, providing guano, a very useful local fertiliser; and they are but two of several thousand vertebrate (spined) living species in Sarawak — and as yet uncounted tens of thousands of insects, shells and so on.

Some of the more interesting forms include:

#### (i) *Mammals*

The most famous of Borneo animals is the "orang-utan" or *maias*, of the the very few close cousins of *homo sapiens*. It is found only in Borneo and a small part of Sumatra. Despite

constant persecution and inadequate protection, there are still *maias* in Sarawak, Indonesian Borneo and North Borneo. This charming, amiable, chestnut-furred animal, desired by zoos all over the world, can still be seen, shambling from tree to tree, inland in the First and Second Division. Another of the five great apes also occurs in Borneo, the gibbon or *wak-wak*, probably the most graceful of all arboreal animals. A favourite pet, it is in captivity very susceptible to pneumonic diseases.

A little below the apes are the monkeys. The proboscis monkey is peculiar to the island and distinguished by an immense rubicund portwine nose. It is a little unfair that the native name for this otherwise elegant animal, sometimes standing almost as high as a man, is *orang blanda*—in English, a Dutchman.

Sarawak is rich in other mammals. The rhinoceros is dangerously near extinction, largely owing to persistent (now illegal) hunting by the Dayaks, who sell them to the Chinese. Wild cattle are quite common in the northern part of the country; wild elephants are confined to North Borneo. Deer are very numerous; the *sambhur* deer or *rusa*, almost as big as a cow, is in some places a nuisance to rice farmers.

There is only one dangerous animal, the honey bear or *bruang*. The leopard can be large and magnificent, but the people of the island regard it as effeminate. The honey bear, if upset or with a family of young, will attack the unwary traveller. There are many stories of people clawed and even killed by angry honey bears. The baby bear is a great favourite as a pet, but as it nears maturity, it becomes dangerous.

In August, two leopard cat kittens (*felis bengalensis*) were caught by villagers at Buntal and, very starved, brought later to the Museum. One died within a few hours, but the second survived and thrived. It was lucky that the Curator's two domestic cats at this time had kittens of their own only a little smaller than the wild cat; they were ultimately persuaded to suckle the latter as well. When it was first introduced, both domestic cats were frightened, and clearly found the smell of the foundling intolerable; even after it had been among their own kittens for a long time, its harsh calls, purring or mewing, would scare them from the nest basket.

The leopard cat too never wholly accepted the tame cats, but fortunately soon took a meat diet. It thrived on frozen butcher's meat, and took birds eagerly. As it grew it became more and more wild, more afraid, and more light-shy. It kept to the walls of the rooms, no longer mixed with the domestic cats, and, except at night, lurked under the furniture. Slowly its territory extended from the house, until at last it left the building altogether, and, we hope, still lives a wild life on the fringe of Kuching town.

During the year special attention was paid to the collection of reptiles and frogs. A remarkable new species of river tortoise was found in the upper Rejang and is being described by Dr. Robert Inger, of the Chicago Natural History Museum. The Sarawak Museum has especially close ties with this great American foundation, derived from the two Chicago Expeditions to Borneo noted in these chapters in earlier years. Close contact and warm relations are also enjoyed with the Smithsonian Institute, the American Museum of Natural History and the Peabody Museum in the United States; with the British Museum and the Natural History Museum in London, and the Cambridge Museum of Archaeology; and with several continental Museums, notably those of Holland.

### *Aquatic Mammals*

Little has previously been known of the aquatic mammals living in the Sarawak coastal water of the South China Sea. In 1957 the studies of these groups continued.

The *dugong*, a shy and silent beast — superficially resembling but in no way related to a sea-lion — now appears to be confined to a small area on Tanjong Datu, where the population of Malay fishermen and Chinese hunters is very small. The whole local population numbers no more than a dozen, it seems.

The picture for cetaceans is brigher — much brighter than has hitherto been suspected. One year's careful observation has given good records of at least fourteen different forms present in these waters, most of them previously unsuspected. These include not only the well-known common dolphin, the ten-foot Bornean white dolphin, the small lead-grey Iriwaddi which comes well up the river, and the Little Finless Black Porpoises of the estuaries,



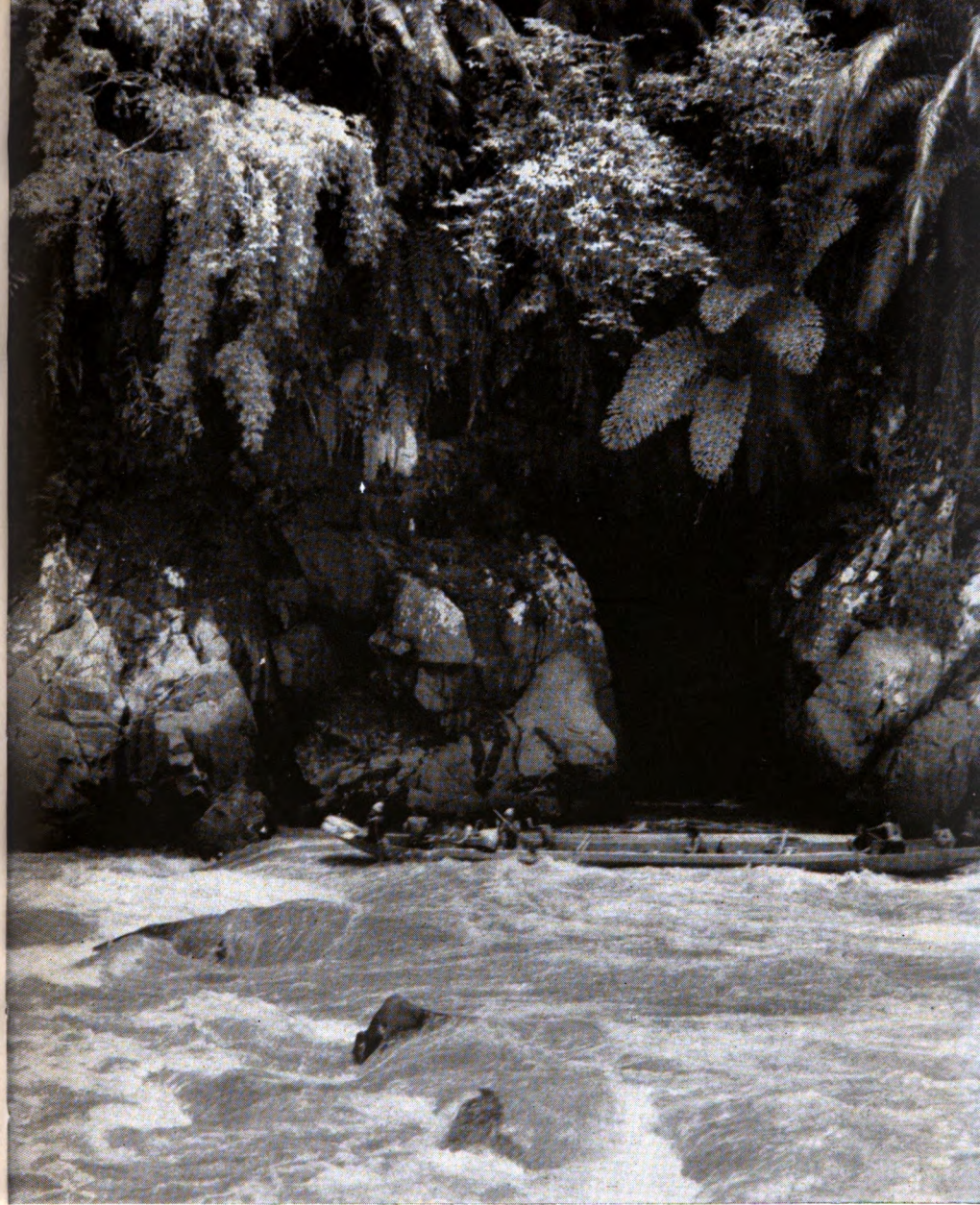
which were fairly well-known before. New records include the Plumbeous Dolphin, a big one with a remarkably long beak; the very large Risso's; the Bottled Nosed (which turns out to be very common); and a small black one, living in the muddy waters of estuary mouths, which has not yet been positively identified and may be new to science. Dr. F. C. Fraser of the British Museum has also described a largish dolphin collected near Lutong which is entirely new and is to be called the Sarawak Dolphin (see *Sarawak Museum Journal*, December 1956).

In the 1956 report two whales were recorded from Sarawak waters, the first in decades, and including the very rare Bryde's Whale. At the end of 1957 a second Bryde's Whale, fourteen feet long, was stranded at Buntal and brought to the Museum by the good efforts of the local fishermen. It looks as if this little known whale may really be resident in the South China Sea?

## (ii) *Birds*

The important ornithological event of the year was the publication in July of B. E. Smythies' (Honorary Curator of Birds) *Checklist of Bornean Birds* as a special number of the *Museum Journal*. But there is still almost endless scope for work on the birds of this country, especially in the field. For instance, since the checklist had been closed, work on the Museum's collection discovered two new migrant records for Borneo, and, even in the few months since its publication, interesting records have been added to the known bird fauna of the island by Museum collectors and voluntary observers. The food, breeding and all bird behaviour in general, is still an important aspect of the Museum's general work, and an intensive study of the biology of the cave-nesting, birds'-nest-soup-yielding, swiftlets (*collocalia*) was under progress all the year.

There is to be found in Borneo one of the richest resident bird faunae in the world. There are several sorts of hornbill, notorious for their domesticity: the male walls the female into the nest, feeds her there and only liberates her when the young are ready to fly. Among a number of fine pheasants, the *Argus* is as handsome as a peacock. Its dancing grounds are stamped out of the mud so that several males can compete to the delight, or at least to the concern, of the females.



(I. A. N. Urquhart)

A *perahu* going down the Batu Mulong Rapids on the Tutoh River in the Fourth Division. The boat is completely unloaded and travelling at full-speed to keep leeway. All the baggage is carried overland. The large tough prow is put on for the journey down the rapids and thrown away with rejoicing when the journey is safely ended

A Berawan Carver,  
up the Baram  
River in the Fourth  
Division



(Sarawak Museum)

Sarawak has parrots, broadbills, ten kinds of pigeon, egrets, nearly twenty kinds of woodpeckers, exquisite honeyeaters and flower-peckers, the lovely-voiced yellow crown bulbul, and so many other birds that it is doubtful if one man could ever learn to recognise them all on sight.

The finest of our seabirds is the great man-o'-war or frigate bird. This does not nest on the coasts, but comes about the offshore inlands in hordes during the monsoon, circling, spiralling and gliding for hours in effortless grace upon the wind.

### (iii) *Turtles and other Reptiles*

Sarawak's reptilian speciality is the big Green or Edible Turtle. Although this occurs elsewhere, only here do so many come up to lay, on three small beaches on islands off the coast (The Turtle Islands). Live turtles are protected. Only the eggs are collected, and a proportion are left to hatch out. Advances continued in experimental methods of rearing the baby turtles until they grow tough enough to evade most of their fish enemies. The study of turtle migrations and laying by marking females with tags was also continued.

These tagging experiments, the first of their kind anywhere, last year produced their first positive results. Some 4,000 turtles were tagged with durable monometal numbered tags from 1953 to 1955. There were no long-term repeat until 1956. Then, on July 6, one marked on July 30, 1953, at last reappeared. By the end of July, fourteen repeats had been recorded: *all* turtles tagged in July and early August 1953. One lady, number B1544, has now been checked in by the staff of turtle watchers on Talang Talang Besar as laying over 1,000 eggs on eleven registered visits, five in 1953 and six in 1956.

The scheme for marking and recording the visits of the Edible Green Turtle continued to produce further valuable results in 1957. During the dry (summer) season twenty-three tagged females returned to the islands (twenty to Talang-Talang, three to Satang); all but one (1954) had been marked in 1953. Where they have been in the interim is still a complete mystery, for Sarawak Museum tags have not yet been reported from anywhere else in the world.



The results of this continuing study are of great importance to the turtle industry, as providing the first scientific information ever on laying habits and migrations. The experiments have aroused world-wide interest.

Sarawak has the most dangerous and deadly snake in the world, the hamadryad or king cobra. It can grow over fifteen feet in length, is quite common, and one of the very few reptiles in the world which will sometimes attack human beings.

Lizards, of which there are nearly a hundred kinds, are more conspicuous, because of the attraction human dwellings have for some varieties such as the *gecko* or *chichak*. An observant person may sometimes see flying lizards, which actually only glide on membranes extended between the front and back limbs. Sarawak is rich in flying forms, its flying snake being one of most spectacular. This peculiar snake, which looks quite ordinary, can (when it wishes) extend its ribs to produce two lateral sails and glide for quite a distance. One, let go from the upper storey of the Sarawak Museum, went nearly fifty yards. Among the amphibians, there are flying frogs with small bodies and big feet upon which are suckers. There are also very large toads, some weighing several pounds.

#### (iv) Fish

Sarawak has little especial in its fish life; fish are below average in abundance, particularly sea-food fish, which are barely sufficient to satisfy the local market. The baracuda, bonito and horse mackerel are the only sporting fish. Big game fishing has not yet been proved feasible.

There is no very active study of Bornean fish in hand at present, but the Master Fisherman regularly sends any unusual species caught by his craft (run through the Department of Agriculture) to the Museum for identification and preservation. Among the species received this year were: A young dolphin fish (*coryphaena*), shark sucker (*euheneis* — remoras) and trigger fish (*cantharines*).

#### (v) Spineless Animals (invertebrates)

Numerous other illustrations of the country's wealth of animal and plant life can be produced: *molluscs* (shells), *crustaceans* (crabs, etc.), *arthropods* (spiders, etc.), and *nematodes*

(worms). In the invertebrate section of spineless or boneless animals the variety of forms is immense. There are also many beautiful butterflies, the loveliest of which is the Rajah Brooke's Bird-wing (*ornithoptera*) which decorated the country's one cent stamp in the King George VI issue.

The great cave at Niah is, among its many other attributes, the only locality in the world recorded in scientific literature as the home of a strange earwig-like parasite called *arixenia esau*; as a result, very little is known of this insect. Following up a scientific paper published in the Royal Entomological Society's journal on the anatomy of this earwig and its related species, *arixenia jacobsoni* (known from Java and Malaya), observations were made on the habit and living conditions of *arixenia* in the cave. These have resolved several mysteries, and have shown, for instance, that the insect is genuinely parasitic — which had before only been conjectured — feeding on the surfaces of the hairless skin of the extraordinary naked bat. An African form of the same family (*hemimerus*) lives in the same way on the skin of a rat.

All animals brought to or collected by Museum staff are examined for parasites. Identification and study of these is usually a business for experts and liaison is maintained with specialists in other institutes. In 1957 some of the interesting results of this work were the third world record (and the first outside South America) of round-worms in frigate birds, fleas from bats and biting lice (*mallophaga*) from swiftlets of what are apparently hitherto undescribed species.

# VI

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## ADMINISTRATION

**S**ARAWAK is divided for administrative purposes into five Divisions, each in charge of a Resident.

These Divisions are

- the First Division, with headquarters at Kuching;
- the Second Division, with headquarters at Simanggang;
- the Third Division, with headquarters at Sibü;
- the Fourth Division, with headquarters at Miri;
- the Fifth Division, with headquarters at Limbang.

Each Division is sub-divided into a number of Districts, administered by District Officers, and most of the Districts into smaller areas or sub-districts each in charge of a member of the Native Officers Service. The District Officers are advised by District Advisory Councils and sometimes Chinese Advisory Boards set up in each District, whilst Residents have the benefit of the advice of Divisional Advisory Councils which meet at frequent intervals at Divisional Headquarters. As far as is practicable, Government attempts to free Residents and District Officers from as much office work as is possible in order that they may tour their areas and maintain the close contact with the people which has always been the keynote of administration.

Progress in local government continued in 1957. Before the war the Native Administration Order was published as an enabling Ordinance to allow the gradual introduction of the people themselves into the administration of their own affairs. This Order contemplated the setting up of village committees to replace the individual chiefs, but the first experiment on these lines did not get very far owing to the outbreak of war and the impossibility of providing adequate supervision. In 1947 a scheme was drawn up for the development of Local Government through local authorities with their own treasuries. The Local Authority

Ordinance, 1948, forms the basis for the powers of these Authorities, and their revenues are made up of direct taxes, fines, and fees, supplemented by a grant from the central Government calculated according to the number of tax-payers.

Most of the authorities first constituted were established on a racial basis, but this proved to be an unsound foundation, and the pattern on which they are now organised is the Mixed, or Inter-racial, Authority, with jurisdiction over people of all races in the area. As from the beginning of the year 1957 the whole population of the country, about 600,000, were under the jurisdiction of local authorities except for an area, on the north-east coast between Miri and the Brunei border containing about 15,000 people, the inclusion of whom in an area administered by a local authority has so far not been possible. All local authorities have a dual function: local government within the limits defined in the Local Authority Ordinance and, as electoral colleges, the election of representatives to Divisional Advisory Councils, which in turn elect members of the Council Negri. In this electoral function three urban councils also elect one representative each direct to the Council Negri. Local authorities are themselves constituted by election.

In 1941, to commemorate the centenary of Brooke rule, His Highness the Rajah granted a Constitution, and in 1946, when Sarawak became a Crown Colony, the Supreme Council and the Council Negri retained the authority granted to them in that Constitution. This gave legislative and financial jurisdiction to the Council Negri, a body of twenty members of whom fourteen were official members appointed from the Sarawak Civil Service and eleven unofficial, representative of the several peoples of the country and their interests. In addition, there were certain Standing Members—natives of Sarawak who had been members of the Council Negri immediately before the enactment of the new Constitution Ordinance. The Council had the power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the country, and no public money could be expended or any charge made upon the revenues of the country without the Council's consent. The Constitution also provided for a Supreme Council of not less than five members, of whom a majority should be members of Sarawak Civil Service and of the Council Negri.

All powers conferred upon the Rajah or the Rajah-in-Council by any written law enacted before the date of operation of the



Cession of Sarawak to His Majesty were vested in the Governor-in-Council. In the exercise of his powers and duties the Governor consulted with the Supreme Council, except in making appointments to the Supreme Council and in cases

(a) of such nature that, in the Governor's judgment, Her Majesty would sustain material prejudice by consulting the Supreme Council thereon; or

(b) of matters in his judgment too unimportant to require their advice; or

(c) of matters in his judgment too urgent to admit of their advice being given by the time action might be necessary.

In August 1956 an Order-in-Council was made and Letters Patent and Royal Instructions were promulgated which between them contained a new Constitution for Sarawak. It provides for a new legislative body consisting of forty-five members of whom twenty-four are elected unofficials, fourteen are *ex-officio*, four nominated to represent interests which the Governor considers inadequately represented, and the remaining three are standing members. The new Supreme or Executive Council consists of three *ex-officio* members, namely the Chief Secretary, the Financial Secretary and the Attorney-General, two nominated members and five elected members who are elected, nominated or standing members of the Legislative Council. Councils representing the five Administrative Divisions of Sarawak, or Divisional Advisory Councils, as they are designated, elect twenty-one of the twenty-four unofficial members, and the remaining three members are elected by the Kuching Municipal Council, the Sibu Urban District Council and the Miri Urban District Council. To qualify for election as an unofficial member a person must be, amongst other things, over twenty-one years of age and a British subject or a British protected person, and must, with certain exceptions, have resided for at least seven out of the last ten years in Sarawak. This Constitution came into force on 1st April, 1957, the day appointed by His Excellency the Governor for this purpose.

## VII

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### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

**T**HE standard weights and measures recognised under the Laws of Sarawak are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound and the Imperial gallon.

Certain local customary weights and measures having the values set out below are also lawful:

1 Tahil	=	1 $\frac{1}{3}$ ozs
1 Kati (16 tahils)	=	1 $\frac{1}{3}$ lbs
1 Picul (100 katis)	=	133 $\frac{1}{3}$ lbs
1 Kayon (40 piculs)	=	5333 $\frac{1}{3}$ lbs
1 Chhun	=	1.19/40 inches
10 Chhuns	=	1 Chhek = 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
1 Panchang	=	108 stack cubic feet

## VIII

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### NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

#### KUCHING

	<i>Founded</i>
<i>Sarawak Gazette</i> (monthly : English)	1870
<i>Sarawak Museum Journal</i> (twice yearly : English)	1911
<i>Sarawak Tribune</i> (daily : English)	1945
<i>Chinese Daily News</i> (daily : Chinese)	1945
<i>Utusan Sarawak</i> (bi-weekly : Malay)	1949
<i>Pedoman Ra'ayat</i> (monthly : Malay)	1950
<i>Pembrita</i> (monthly : Iban)	1950
<i>Sarawak Vanguard</i> (daily : Chinese)	1952
<i>Co-operation in Sarawak</i> (quarterly : English—Malay—Chinese—Iban)	1952
<i>Radio Times of Sarawak</i> (fortnightly : English—Malay—Chinese—Iban)	1955
<i>Hwa Chiew Evening Paper</i> (bi-weekly : Chinese)	1955
<i>Sin Wen Pau</i> (daily : Chinese)	1956
<i>Sarawak by the Week</i> (weekly : English)	1956
<i>Sarawak Dalam Sa-minggu</i> (weekly : Malay)	1957

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# IX

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# APPENDICES

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APPENDIX A  
COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE SCHEME — SARAWAK ALLOCATION

Scheme Number	Title of Scheme	Total Grant	Actual expenditure to 31.12.57	Estimated expenditure 1958	Balance of Scheme	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	
	AGRICULTURE					
D. 816 and D. 816A	Agriculture Soil Survey ...	102,575	* 102,575	—	—	Completed
D. 826	Rubber Improvement (Extension)	64,617	* 64,617	—	—	"
D. 954	Cultivation of Cash Crops ...	100,960	* 100,960	—	—	"
D. 968	Visit of Malayan Irrigation Engineer ...	1,934	1,934	—	—	"
D. 973 and D. 973A	Mechanical Cultivation ...	82,709	* 82,709	—	—	"
D. 1208 and D. 1208A-B	Rice Cultivation — Paya Megok	493,200	485,063	—	8,137	"
D. 1424	Cocoa Seed Production Station	15,135	15,135	—	—	"
D. 1519	Department of Agriculture Staff Training School ...	99,755	99,755	—	—	"
D. 1664	Farm Mechanisation ...	153,351	* 153,351	—	—	"
D. 2080	Rice Cultivation — Niah/Sibuti	80,362	* 80,362	—	—	"
D. 2233	Rice Investigation (Pot Culture Experiments) ...	3,025	3,025	—	—	Scheme abandoned
D. 2311 and D. 2311A	Rice Investigation (Wet Padi Land Surveys) ...	270,000	270,000	—	—	Completed
D. 3138 and D. 3138A	Soils Laboratory Organisation	166,928	113,854	37,675	15,399	
	BROADCASTING					
D. 2832	Extension Broadcasting Service	327,428	265,712	50,000	11,716	
	CIVIL AVIATION					
D. 913A-B	Kuching Airport (Supplementary)	291,432	291,432	—	—	Completed
D. 1542 and D. 1542A	Sibu Airfield ...	179,999	179,999	—	—	"
D. 1923	Sibu Airfield—Buildings ...	275,079	275,079	—	—	"

EDUCATION									
D. 838	Rural Improvement School, Kanowit	248,091	* 248,091	—	—	—	Completed		
D. 839 and D. 839A	Batu Lintang Teacher—Training Centre and School	544,606	* 544,606	—	—	—	"		
D. 1871	Grants for Domestic Science Rooms	† 119,458	59,458	—	60,000	—			
D. 1875 and D. 2783	Grants for Science Laboratories	225,000	134,920	85,887	4,193	—			
FISHERIES									
D. 821	Training of Fishery Survey Officer†	2,316	2,316	—	—	—	Completed		
D. 837 and D. 837A	Fisheries Survey	69,995	* 699,995	—	—	—	"		
FORESTRY									
D. 1120	Forestry Development (1.1.50-31.12.58)	339,521	339,521	—	—	—	Completed		
D. 2791	Forestry Development (1.1.56-31.12.59)	363,428	169,559	—	193,869	—	Scheme continued under Recurrent Budget (Part I) from 1.1.58		
D.	Timber Plantations	81,115	—	—	81,115	—			
GOVERNMENT BUILDING									
D. 1430 and D. 1430A	Senior Service Quarters	217,383	217,383	—	—	—	Completed		

Note:

- \* Net expenditure after deducting revenue earned by scheme.
- † Additional provision of \$39,458, subject to approval of Secretary of State.
- ‡ Completed before commencement of Development Plan.
- § Scheme closed on 31.12.55 and continued under Scheme D.2791.

APPENDIX A—(contd.)  
 COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE SCHEME — SARAWAK ALLOCATION—(contd.)

<i>Scheme Number</i>	<i>Title of Scheme</i>	<i>Total Grant</i>	<i>Actual expenditure to 31.12.57</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 1958</i>	<i>Balance of Scheme</i>
		\$	\$	\$	\$
D. 830 D. 2442	MEDICAL Travelling Dispensaries ... Mental Hospital ...	638,419 1,500,000	* 638,419 1,446,764	— 53,236	— —
	PORT DEVELOPMENT				Completed
D. 1273	Test Bores, Rejang and Kuching Rivers ...	75,559	75,559	—	—
	ROADS AND BRIDGES				"
D. 944	Secondary Roads and Telecommunications ...	98,911	98,911	—	—
D. 1076 and D. 1076A-E D. 3124	Road Development Scheme ... Serian-Simanggang Road ...	2,098,151 7,005,000	* 2,097,495 2,086,474	— 4,008,750	656 909,776
	Total, Sarawak Allocation	16,335,442	10,815,033	4,235,548	1,284,861

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE SCHEMES — JOINT BORNEO ALLOCATION					
		†	92,143	92,143	Completed
D. 823 D. 804 and D. 804A-D	Coal Investigation ... Sarawak Population Census and printing of Census Table† ...	224,211 411,428	223,902 411,428	— —	— 309
D. 913 D. 1828	Kuching Airport ... Central Mental Hospital ...	15,106	15,106	—	—
	Total, Joint Borneo Allocation	742,888	742,579	—	309

*Note:*

- \* Net expenditure after deducting revenue earned by scheme.  
 † 50 per cent of total grant; scheme administered by North Borneo Government.  
 ‡ Completed before commencement of Development Plan.

# APPENDIX A—(contd.)

## COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE SCHEMES — CENTRAL ALLOCATION

Scheme Number	Title of Scheme	Total Grant	Actual expenditure to 31.12.57	Estimated expenditure 1958	Balance of Scheme	
D. 1109 and D. 1109A D. 1109B	Combined Geological Survey ... Combined Geological Survey ...	\$ 844,352 325,500	\$ 844,352 325,117	\$ — —	\$ — 383	Completed Scheme closed 31.12.55.
D. 1191 (i)	Combined Geological Survey ...	5,047	5,047	—	—	Completed
D. 3021	Combined Geological Survey ...	565,714	351,075	† 79,000	135,639	Completed
D. 1749	Broadcasting Service ...	406,283	405,536	—	747	Completed
D. 1692	Meteorological Service ...	197,990	181,753	—	16,237	"
D. 1117 and D. 1117A-E	Aeronautical Telecommunications ...	402,000	392,066	—	9,934	"
D. 1924	Aeronautical Telecommunications Equipment, Sibul Airfield	81,000	47,132	—	33,868	"
D. 2502	Aerodio Equipment for Lutong	16,500	13,275	3,225	—	"
R. 209 and R. 209A R. 207 and R. 270A-G	Bintulu Airfields ... Fisheries Survey† ... Sociological Research (Melanau Iban, Land Dayak and Chinese projects) ...	77,786 § 69,995	§ 69,995	—	7,791	"
R. 483	Sociological Research (Malay project) ...	93,266	88,704	—	4,562	"
R. 618 A, B and C	Pepper Disease Investigations	6,000 93,196	5,917 59,476	—	83 33,720	Scheme continued under Recurrent Budget (Part I) from 1.1.58.
R. 848 and A	Soils Laboratory Organisation	264,000	37,156	226,844	—	
	<b>Total, Central Allocations</b>	<b>3,378,634</b>	<b>2,826,601</b>	<b>309,069</b>	<b>242,964</b>	

Note:

\* Saving on scheme.

† Capital Expenditure only. Recurrent expenditure transferred to Recurrent Budget from 1.1.58.

‡ Completed before commencement of Development Plan.

§ Net expenditure after deducting revenue earned by scheme.

APPENDIX A—(contd.)  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEMES — SARAWAK FUNDS

<i>Title of Scheme</i>	<i>Total Estimated cost of scheme</i>	<i>Actual expenditure to 31.12.57</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 1958</i>	<i>Balance of Scheme</i>	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
Agricultural Credit—Loan to Co-operative Central Bank ... ..	250,000	250,000	—	—	Completed
Fertiliser Manufacture ... ..	4,970	4,970	—	—	
Development of Farm Mechanisation ...	375,000	284,187	12,500	78,313	
Animal Husbandry (Purchase of Live-stock) ... ..	100,000	71,132	5,000	23,868	
Veterinary Clinic ... ..	164,360	87,548	75,625	1,187	
Pepper Disease Investigations ... ..	134,537	119,421	9,500	5,616	
Coconut Seed Production ... ..	30,000	—	5,000	25,000	Completed
Rice Cultivation—Paya Megok ... ..	107,725	104,228	—	3,497	"
Rice Cultivation—Niah/Sibuti ... ..	89,143	80,149	—	8,994	
Rice Investigation (padi developments Bijat and Pujut Lopeng) ... ..	9,969	9,969	—	—	"
Rice Investigation (Wet Padi Land Surveys) ... ..	1,500	1,157	—	343	
Rubber Planting ... ..	7,000,000	1,361,599	1,685,915	3,952,486	
Rubber Research ... ..	700,000	400,000	100,000	200,000	
Rural Agricultural Education ... ..	75,000	—	75,000	—	
Sago Industry ... ..	8,570	7,668	—	902	
Soils Laboratory Organisation ... ..	166,929	113,854	37,675	15,400	
Drainage and Irrigation, Samarahan Estate ... ..	136,750 (9,354,453)	65,794 (2,961,676)	70,338 (2,076,553)	618 (4,316,224)	
<b>BROADCASTING</b>					
Establishment of Broadcasting Service ...	516,848	516,092	—	756	"
Extension of Broadcasting Service ...	518,562 (1,035,410)	433,465 (949,557)	50,000 (50,000)	35,097 (35,853)	



APPENDIX A—(contd.)  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEMES — SARAWAK FUNDS—(contd.)

<i>Title of Scheme</i>	<i>Total Estimated cost of scheme</i>	<i>Actual expenditure to 31.12.57</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 1958</i>	<i>Balance of Scheme</i>	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Contribution to Sarawak Council for Adult Education ... ..	42,462	36,462	—	6,000	{ Transferred to recurrent budget (Part I) from 1.1.58.
Staff ... ..	66,204 (1,207,613)	63,694 (622,767)	(176,407)	2,500 (408,439)	
EDUCATION					
Rural Improvement School, Kanowit ...	194,612	194,612	—	—	{ Transferred to recurrent budget from 1.1.54.
Buildings — Rural Improvement School, Kanowit ... ..	179,993	179,993	—	—	{ Completed
Batu Lintang Teacher-Training Centre and School ... ..	150,430	150,430	—	—	{ Transferred to recurrent budget from 1.1.54.
Local Scholarships ... ..	180,317	154,011	—	26,306	{ Transferred to Recurrent Budget (Part I) as from 1.1.58
Overseas Scholarships and In-Service Training ... ..	2,300,000	1,011,280	585,000	703,720	
Production of Vernacular Literature ...	8,187	3,187	—	5,000	{ Transferred to recurrent budget (Part I) from 1.1.58.
Trade and Technical Education ... ..	750,446	446	—	750,000	
Batu Lintang Training Centre Permanent Buildings ... ..	2,500,000	—	100,000	2,400,000	
Commercial Courses ... ..	20,000	—	5,000	15,000	
Library Establishment ... ..	250,000	135,274	60,355	54,371	
Government Secondary Schools ... ..	5,000,000	444,166	2,100,000	2,455,834	

Chinese Teacher Training	...	500,000	304,090	156,000	39,910	
Group Headmaster Scheme	...	427,000	14,900	40,000	372,100	
Capital Grants to Education Agencies	...	4,500,000	696,626	1,000,000	2,803,374	
Loans to Agencies and Local Authorities	...	500,000	69,000	250,000	181,000	
Regional Publication Bureau	...	113,770	—	—	113,770	
Lutong School	...	88,000	18,607	69,393	—	
	...	(17,662,755)	(3,376,622)	(4,365,748)	(9,920,385)	
FISHERIES						
Fisheries Survey	...	12,857	12,857	—	—	Completed
Marine Fisheries	...	...	...	...	...	
Singapore	...	24,246	20,246	4,000	—	
Fishery Development	...	371,174	264,996	45,320	60,858	
Fresh Water Fisheries	...	12,355	8,780	3,100	475	
Inboard Engines for Local Fishing Craft	...	52,900	20,406	32,494	—	"
	...	(473,532)	(372,285)	(84,914)	(61,333)	
FORESTRY						
Grant towards establishment of National Park	...	49,998	49,998	—	—	"
Forestry Development	...	57,969	57,969	—	—	"
	...	...	...	...	...	"
	...	(107,967)	(107,967)	(—)	(—)	Transferred to recurrent budget (Part I) from 1.1.58.
FUEL AND POWER						
Electricity Supplies	...	10,275,200	6,175,200	1,900,000	2,200,000	
Electricity Supplies, Lundu (Loan to Lundu District Council)	...	42,300	42,300	—	—	
	...	(10,317,500)	(6,217,500)	(1,900,000)	(2,200,000)	"
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY						
Combined Geological Survey	...	560,603	537,551	—	23,052	Transferred to recurrent budget (Part I) from 1.1.58.



APPENDIX A—(contd.)  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEMES — SARAWAK FUNDS—(contd.)

<i>Title of Scheme</i>	<i>Total Estimated cost of scheme</i>	<i>Actual expenditure to 31.12.57</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 1958</i>	<i>Balance of Scheme</i>	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
<b>GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS</b>					
High Court air-conditioning, Sibul	16,000	8,408	6,000	1,592	Completed " " " "
New Government Office, Sibul	450,000	—	—	450,000	
New Government Office, Bau	78,000	—	—	78,000	
New Government Office, Tatau	30,000	29,456	544	—	
New Government Office, Sundar	25,000	16,311	5,000	3,689	
New Courthouse, Limbang	20,000	6,076	5,000	8,924	
Rehabilitation of Lundu Station	345,412	345,412	—	—	
New Government Office, Kuching	1,135,655	1,135,655	—	—	
Extension of Government Office, Simanggang	58,000	57,687	—	313	
New District Office, Lawas	48,000	47,679	—	321	
P.W.D. Garage, Kuching	276,698	276,698	—	—	
P.W.D. Depot (First and Second Divisions)	240,661	240,661	—	—	
P.W.D. Depot (Simanggang, Sarikei and Limbang)	250,000	7,973	152,500	89,527	
Miri Government Office, extension	57,000	47,295	—	9,705	
Expansions and Improvements, Government Offices, Kuching	1,078,700 (4,109,126)	34,546 (2,253,857)	400,000 (569,044)	644,154 (1,286,225)	
<b>HOUSING</b>					
Miri Housing Scheme	890,000	835,910	25,763	28,327	
Kuching Housing Scheme	3,850,000	3,850,000	—	—	
Sibu Housing Scheme	2,500,000	—	—	2,500,000	
Civil Servants Housing Loan	2,670,000	727,855	500,000	1,442,145	
Investment in New Building Society	500,000	—	250,000	250,000	
	(10,410,000)	(5,413,765)	(775,763)	(4,220,472)	

LAND						
Land Utilisation and Development ...	1,997,155	427,991	299,600	1,269,564		
Acquisition of Land for development purposes ... ..	1,500,000	1,079,353	300,000	120,647		
	(3,497,155)	(1,507,344)	(599,600)	(1,390,211)		
MEDICAL						
Health Centre ... ..	316,568	316,568	—	—	Completed	
Leper Settlement Buildings ... ..	600,000	501,440	—	98,560	Transferred to recurrent budget (Part I) from 1.1.54.	
Travelling Dispensaries ... ..	146,458	146,458	—	—		
Travelling Doctors Scheme	120,000	—	60,000	60,000		
Extension of Anti-Tuberculosis Facilities	210,000	54,039	155,961	—		
Kuching ... ..	75,000	61,324	13,676	—		
Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign	74,712	74,712	—	—		
W.H.O. Anti-Malaria Survey, Local Contribution ... ..	4,000,000	918,403	750,000	2,331,597		
Anti-Malarial Work ... ..	1,410,600	871,282	381,821	157,497		
Sibu Hospital extension ... ..	220,000	—	—	220,000		
Sarikei Hospital ... ..	1,277,171	94,319	500,000	682,852		
Simanggang Hospital extension	482,180	314,984	155,716	11,480		
Kuching Hospital ... ..	550,000	—	550,000	—		
Miri Hospital ... ..	903,125	694,509	195,726	12,890		
Mental Hospital ... ..	350,000	144,527	205,000	473		
Dispensaries ... ..	50,000	12,780	20,000	17,220		
Rural Sanitation Pilot Scheme	(10,785,814)	(4,205,345)	(2,987,900)	(3,572,569)		
METEOROLOGICAL						
Meteorological Service ... ..	18,739	18,739	—	—	Transferred to recurrent budget (Part I) from 1.1.54.	
PORT DEVELOPMENT						
Gunong Ayer ... ..	600,000	481,575	—	118,425		
Sibu ... ..	2,400,000	1,795,879	352,691	251,430		
Miri Port Development ... ..	170,000	133,174	34,735	2,091		

APPENDIX A—(contd.)  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEMES — SARAWAK FUNDS—(contd.)

<i>Title of Scheme</i>	<i>Total Estimated cost of scheme</i>	<i>Actual expenditure to 31.12.57</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 1958</i>	<i>Balance of Scheme</i>	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Kuching Port Development ...	5,750,000	878,431	2,702,000	2,169,569	
Kuala Baram Wharf ...	117,500	78,325	34,000	5,175	
Minor Wharfrage ...	500,000	229,060	200,500	70,440	
Brooke Dockyard ...	800,000	398,952	401,048	—	
Sarikei Wharf ...	907,400	22,538	50,000	834,862	
Simanggang Wharf and Equipment ...	200,000	4,830	150,000	45,170	
	(11,444,900)	(4,027,764)	(3,924,974)	(3,497,162)	
<b>RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATIONS</b>					
Preliminary Surveys (P.W.D.) ...	70,000	37,637	15,000	17,363	
Experimental Iodised Salt ...	22,000	—	9,400	12,600	
Grading of Timber ...	2,469	2,469	—	—	Completed
Pepper Marketing Investigations ...	35,000	—	35,000	—	"
Survey of Electricity Supply Problems ...	9,818	9,818	—	—	"
Bau Mines Gold Extraction ...	3,500	—	3,500	—	"
Plateau Area Investigations ...	5,000	5,000	—	—	"
Experiment in Pony Transportation ...	6,000	—	—	6,000	"
Karagas Soil Survey ...	5,551	5,551	—	—	"
Timber Depot Investigations ...	12,000	8,070	—	3,930	"
Survey of Baram River Mouth ...	1,543	1,543	—	—	"
Survey of Lundu and Saratok Airfields ...	2,000	1,719	—	281	"
	(174,881)	(71,807)	62,900	(40,174)	
<b>ROADS AND BRIDGES</b>					
Road Reconstruction Programme ...	18,757,823	14,055,641	2,089,022	2,613,160	
Oil Storage Depot, Bukit Biawak, Kuching ...	286,350	267,988	1,895	16,467	"
Oil Storage Depot, Sungei Merah, Sibü ...	45,000	43,033	—	1,967	"
Preliminary Surveys for Secondary Road Simanggang-Sibü Road Survey ...	8,746	8,746	—	—	
Kuching-Serian Road (Sarawak Contribution) ...	100,000	—	25,000	75,000	
	157,723	157,723	—	—	"

Survey Serian-Simanggang Road ...	306,509	306,509	1,336,250	12,761,287	Completed
Serian-Simanggang oRad ...	14,995,000	897,463	—	—	"
Access Road to Kuching Airport ...	66,918	66,918	—	—	"
Town Roads, Second Division ...	250,000	93,499	156,501	—	"
Miri-Bekenu Road (Brighton Road Section) ...	90,000	88,224	—	1,776	
Miri Town Area Roads ...	385,000	3,585	305,000	76,415	
Sarikei-Binatang Road ...	4,500,000	561,345	492,000	3,446,655	
Secondary Roads, Fifth Division ...	769,000	375,420	378,229	15,351	
Minor Roads and Paths ...	3,000,000	1,537,149	555,900	906,951	
Batu Kitang Bridge ...	1,068,172	54,846	—	1,013,326	
Senah Negri and Tebedu Roads ...	840,900	231,720	200,000	409,180	
	(45,627,141)	(18,749,809)	(5,539,797)	(21,337,535)	
<b>SOCIAL WELFARE</b>					
Girls Home ...	260,150	—	260,150	—	
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>					
Survey of Telecommunications Plan ...	10,540	10,540	—	—	"
V.H.F. Radio/Telephone ...	4,968,100	4,730,299	200,900	36,901	
Multi-Channel V.H.F. Radio ...	2,000,000	419,281	1,000,000	580,719	
Telephone Exchange, Kuching ...	1,316,679	1,305,017	7,214	4,448	
Extension Telephone Exchange, Kuching ...	781,240	469,457	305,614	6,169	
Telephone Exchange, Sibn ...	629,480	417,168	212,312	—	
Extension Telephone Exchange, Sibn ...	420,500	—	—	420,500	
Telephone Exchange, Miri ...	637,032	464,069	152,090	20,873	
Improvement of W/T Service at Simang-gang ...	11,259	11,259	—	—	"
Outstation Telephone System ...	455,000	377,367	63,420	14,213	
H.F. Telephone Links to Ulu Areas ...	20,000	1,202	18,500	298	
Contingencies ...	19,441	16,210	3,031	200	
Aeronautical Telecommunications ...	881,557	767,787	109,270	4,500	
	(12,150,828)	(8,989,656)	(2,072,351)	(1,088,821)	
<b>SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH</b>					
Sarawak Contribution to Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme R.270	8,015	7,800	—	215	"

APPENDIX A—(contd.)  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEMES — SARAWAK FUNDS—(contd.)

<i>Title of Scheme</i>	<i>Total Estimated cost of scheme</i>	<i>Actual expenditure to 31.12.57</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 1958</i>	<i>Balance of Scheme</i>	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	Completed " Abandoned
<b>TOWN DEVELOPMENT</b>					
Limbang Bazaar ... ..	154,700	150,126	—	4,574	
Bekenu Bazaar ... ..	92,176	92,176	—	—	
Simanggang Bazaar ... ..	169,434	169,434	—	—	
Sibu Bazaar ... ..	2,674,208	1,025,540	563,753	1,084,915	
Miri Bazaar ... ..	300,000	118,894	58,491	122,615	
Kampong Gita, Kuching ... ..	722,095	525,733	151,002	45,360	
Simunjan Bazaar ... ..	175,000	34,771	47,890	92,339	
Panchor Bazaar ... ..	276	276	—	—	
Lawas Bazaar ... ..	174,000	29,335	144,665	—	
Marudi Bazaar ... ..	180,000	39,788	127,500	12,712	
Saratok Bazaar ... ..	200,000	—	—	200,000	
Maong Bazaar ... ..	145,000	37,808	70,000	37,192	
Bazaar Drain ... ..	300,000	85,767	89,200	125,033	
Batu Lintang Bazaar ... ..	73,000	—	73,000	—	
	(5,359,889)	(2,309,648)	(1,325,501)	(1,724,740)	
<b>WATER SUPPLIES</b>					
Batu Kiting Scheme, Kuching ... ..	3,541,373	3,507,827	11,500	22,046	Completed
Sungei China Pipeline, Kuching ... ..	340,605	340,605	—	—	"
Simunjan ... ..	68,734	68,734	—	—	"
Sarikei and Binatang ... ..	999,780	974,485	15,175	10,120	"
Bau ... ..	54,828	54,828	—	—	"
Miri ... ..	453,500	420,409	31,992	1,099	"
Limbang (Improvements) ... ..	15,022	15,022	—	—	"
Sibu (Extensions) ... ..	720,000	505,306	116,132	98,562	
Lawas ... ..	88,000	87,406	—	594	
Kapit ... ..	94,000	—	94,000	—	
Sungei Merah ... ..	195,000	—	195,000	—	
Kanowit ... ..	98,000	—	40,000	58,000	
Song ... ..	82,000	—	40,000	42,000	
Renewal of Mains, Kuching ... ..	881,000	229,818	608,791	42,391	

					Completed
7th Mile Bazaar, Kuching ...	29,900	29,900	—	—	—
Mukah Waterworks ...	8,000	694	—	7,306	—
Simanggang ...	460,000	121,575	228,387	110,038	—
Lundu ...	54,000	40,048	10,000	3,952	—
Marudi ...	104,000	—	30,000	74,000	—
Serian ...	100,000	—	—	100,000	—
Bintulu ...	25,000	—	15,000	10,000	—
Reconstruction Labuan Store	67,000	65,719	—	1,281	—
Santubong ...	20,000	19,904	—	96	—
Establishment of Metered System	245,100	126,923	112,500	5,677	—
	(8,744,842)	(6,609,203)	(1,548,477)	(587,162)	—
<b>WATERWAYS</b>					
Sungei Kut Canal ...	410,000	350,123	59,877	—	—
River Works (Anti-erosion Works and blasting of rocks in rapids) ...	505,955	232,113	137,000	136,842	—
Hydrographic Survey ...	50,000	40,011	9,989	—	—
Aikman Canal improvements—preliminary works ...	12,000	—	8,000	4,000	—
	(977,955)	(622,247)	(214,866)	(140,842)	—
<b>DEVELOPMENT STAFF</b>					
Agricultural and Engineer Officers ...	2,098,813	1,689,864	179,415	229,534	—
<b>PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>					
P.W.D. Plant Equipment ...	2,000,000	1,191,859	556,430	251,711	—
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>					
Dayak Resthouse ...	60,000	47,694	—	12,306	—
Provision of Recreational facilities ...	250,000	209,018	—	40,982	—
Development Finance Corporation ...	1,000,000	—	1,000,000	—	—
	(1,310,000)	(256,712)	(1,000,000)	(53,288)	—
<b>Total, Development Plant Schemes—Sarawak Funds</b>	162,578,261	74,416,618	31,621,221	56,540,422	—

**APPENDIX B**  
**TABLE I. NUMBER OF SCHOOLS AND PUPILS IN SEPTEMBER, 1957**

TYPE OF SCHOOL	PRIMARY				SECONDARY				TEACHER-TRAINING			
	Schools	Enrolment		Total	School	Enrolment		Total	School	Enrolment		Total
		Male	Female			Male	Female			Male	Female	
GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS												
VERNACULAR AND ENGLISH Government	3	120	9	129	3	278	57	335	3	204	56	260
Local Authority	270	12,782	4,400	17,182	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private (Village Committee)	7	474	319	793	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mission :												
(Native)	100	5,006	1,750	6,756	5	221	45	266				
(Others)	21	3,915	2,783	6,698	12	1,531	837	2,368				
CHINESE-LANGUAGE SCHOOLS												
Boards of Management	236	21,413	15,315	36,728	12	2,810	1,468	4,278				
Mission	5	792	567	1,359	2	444	198	642				
UNAIDED SCHOOLS	34	1,038	731	1,769	2	76	28	104				
TOTAL	676	45,540	25,874	71,414	36	5,360	2,633	7,993				
		Add Primary			376	45,540	25,874	71,414				
		GRAND TOTAL			712	50,900	28,507	79,407				

## APPENDIX B—(contd.)

TABLE II. NUMBER OF PUPILS CLASSIFIED BY TYPES OF SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER, 1957

In this table Mission Schools include schools under Mission management which use Chinese as the medium of instruction. In Table I Mission Chinese Schools are included in Chinese-language schools.

RACE	Population 1956 (Estimated)	TYPE OF SCHOOL										Percentage of Population
		Govern- ment	AIDED SCHOOLS					Unaided Schools		Total		
			Local Authority		Private	Mission	Chinese					
CHINESE	189,826	P. 12 S. 28	P. 129 S. —	P. — S. —	P. 6,787 S. 2,594	P 36,452 S. 4,278	P. 982 S. 96	P. 44,362 S. 6,996	51,356	27.06		
MALAYS	115,480	P. 38 S. 232	P. 9,603 S. —	P. 698 S. —	P. 1,601 S. 264	P. 86 S. 1	P. 165 S. 8	P. 12,191 S. 504	12,695	10.99		
DAYAKS AND OTHER INDIGENOUS	319,446	P. 79 S. 74	P. 7,430 S. —	P. 95 S. —	P. 6,061 S. 333	P. 182 S. —	P. 571 S. —	P. 14,418 S. 407	14,825	4.64		
OTHER ASIANS	6,679	P. — S. 1	P. 20 S. —	P. — S. —	P. 231 S. 33	P. 7 S. —	P. 17 S. —	P. 275 S. 34	309	4.63		
EURASIANS, EUROPEANS ETC.	2,106	P. — S. —	P. — S. —	P. — S. —	P. 133 S. 52	P. 1 S. —	P. 34 S. —	P. 168 S. 52	220	10.45		
TOTAL	633,537	P. 129 S. 335	P. 17,182 S. —	P. 793 S. —	P. 14,813 S. 3,276	P. 36,728 S. 4,278	P. 1,769 S. 104	P. 71,414 S. 7,993	79,407	12.53		



## APPENDIX C

## PROSECUTIONS BY POLICE FOR STATUTORY OFFENCES, 1957

OFFENCES	NUMBER OF CASES				NUMBER OF PERSONS CONVICTED							
	Total	Convicted	Discharged	Pending	Total			Imprisonment		Fine		
					M	F	Juv.	M	F	M	F	Juv.
Traffic Ordinance	5,989	3,602	1,920	467	3,567	141	2	4		3,563	141	2
Municipal Ordinance	836	525	253	58	508	18	1			508	18	1
Dangerous Drugs Ordinance	140	118	5	17	142	3	—	10		132	2	—
Gambling	91	76	10	5	165	3	1			165	3	1
Other Offence	1,446	1,038	245	163	1,296	30	6	63		1,233	30	6
Totals	8,502	5,359	2,433	710	5,678	195	10	77		5,601	195	10

**APPENDIX C—(contd.)**  
**CASES OF CRIME REPORTED TO POLICE, 1957**

**A. NUMBER OF CASES**

OFFENCES	Total cases known or reported to the Police	CASES NOT ACCEPTED			DISPOSAL OF ACCEPTED CASES						
		Complaint due to law or fact	Frivolous, vexatious or false complaint	Total	Accused dead or insane	Acquitted or discharged	Noile prosecu	Convicted	Cases proved and order made without conviction	Closed undetected	pending trial under investigation or Trival
Against lawful authority	43			43		4		33	3		3
	8			8				7			
	9			9	3			5			1
Against public morality											
	6		2	4				1	1	2	
	1		1								
Rape and indecent assault	22			22		3	1	15		3	
Against the person											
	27		1	26	3	2	1	12			8
	29		4	25	2	3	2	9	4	3	2
Murder and manslaughter											
			15	81	1	4	1	54		8	13
			805	74		2	3	39	3	22	5
Grievous harm, wounding etc.	63	169	37	26		1		10		10	5
Assaults											
Other											
Against Property											
	1,190	4	53	1,133		64	1	217	15	704	150
	7		7					2		4	1
Thefts and other stealings	93		1	92				17		51	24
Robbery and extortion	78	6	11	61		6	1	23	1	18	12
Burglary, house and store breaking	11			11		2	1	3	2	1	2
False pretences, cheating, fraud etc.	6			6						2	4
Receiving stolen property	184	3	87	94		7		21		54	12
Arson											
Other											
All other offences against Penal Code											
	11			11		1		7		2	1
	254	3	23	228		22	2	127	1	52	24
Forgery and coinage											
Other											
Totals	3,186	185	1,040	1,961	9	103	13	602	31	936	267

## APPENDIX C—(contd.)

## CASES OF CRIME REPORTED AND DEALT WITH BY THE COURTS, 1957

## B. NUMBER OF PERSONS

OFFENCES	NUMBERS CONVICTED														Order made without proceeding to conviction	
	Total arrested or summoned to Court	Acquitted or discharged	Nolle prosequi	Total		Death		Imprisonment		Fine		Juv.				
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
	Juv.	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
<b>Against lawful authority</b>																
Against public order	83	4		70	9			7		58	9			5		
Perjury	8			8				1		6				1		
Escape and rescue	6			6				6								
<b>Against public morality</b>																
Rape and indecent assault	5		2	3						2				1		
Unnatural offences										14						
Other	18	3	1	14												
<b>Against the person</b>																
Murder and manslaughter	17	3	2	9		3		7	2						1	
Attempted murder and attempted suicide	17	4		8	4	1		5		1				2	4	1
Grievous harm, wounding etc.	62	7	1	52	1	1		13		32				7	1	1
Assaults	54	5	3	43	3			5	1	26	2			12		
Other	14	3		10	1			3		7				1		
<b>Against Property</b>																
Thefts and other stealing	308	66	1	199	2	38	2	103	2	59	1			37	33	2
Robbery and extortion	3			3				2		1						
Burglary, house and store breaking	26	2		18		6		16	3	1				1		3
False pretences, cheating, fraud etc.	32	6		26				6		15				5		
Receiving stolen property	7	2	1	4						2				2		
Arson																
Other	91	7		83	1			1		75				7		1
<b>All other offences against Penal Code</b>																
Forgery and coinage	6			6										3		
Other	190	23	1	155	10	1		1		2				11	7	1
								15		129	3					
<b>Totals</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>41</b>

APPENDIX D  
SARAWAK ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED  
POSITION AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1957

Township or Location	Installed Capacity (Kilowatts)	M.D. on Station	Supply AC/DC	Units sold Jan. to Dec. 1957	No. of Consumers	Daily Supply Period (Hours)	Remarks
Kuching	2,719	1,997	AC	6,029,462	4,667	24	
7th Mile	738	252	AC	517,047	73	24	Includes supply to Batu Kitang Waterworks.
10th Mile	12	9.5	AC	10,410	38	12	
Bau	50	32	AC	47,927	121	13	
Serian	42.5	35	AC	43,934	91	13	
Betong	50	42	DC	52,735	128	13	Converting to AC.
Simanggang	118	83	AC	115,165	239	24	24 Hour Operation started in November.
Sibu	1,100	735	AC	2,123,883	1,945	24	
Sarikei	172	112	AC	232,347	286	24	
Binatang	58	56	DC	82,077	165	13	
Kanowit	50	40	AC	53,845	118	13	Converting to AC.
Mukah	72	50	DC	101,279	153	17	
Miri	652	406	AC & DC	741,863	779	24	DC being converted to AC.
Bintulu	66	69	DC	73,755	148	13	
Marudi	50	47.5	AC	57,021	157	13	
Limbang	68	57	AC	74,333	192	13	

APPENDIX E  
AIRCRAFT MOVEMENT STATISTICS FOR 1957

AIRFIELD	FEEDER SERVICE		OTHER CIVIL		MILITARY		TOTAL	
	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out
Kuching	—	—	990	990	82	82	1,072	1,072
Sibu	183	183	804	804	8	8	995	995
Lutong	344	344	407	419	3	3	754	756
Bintulu	364	364	—	—	1	1	365	365

APPENDIX E—(contd.)  
PASSENGER, MAIL AND FREIGHT STATISTICS  
A. MAIN AIRFIELDS

AIRFIELD	PASSENGERS			FREIGHT (kilos)			MAIL (kilos)		
	Embarked	Dis-embarked	Transit	Embarked	Dis-embarked	Transit	Embarked	Dis-embarked	Transit
Kuching	7,270	7,212	6,268	38,028	101,817	204,641	22,246	24,117	42,855
Sibu	4,862	4,754	6,478	23,225	55,859	188,991	13,809	18,258	44,727

APPENDIX E—(contd.)  
PASSENGER, MAIL AND FREIGHT STATISTICS  
B. FEEDER SERVICE

AIRFIELD	PASSENGERS			FREIGHT (kilos)			MAIL (kilos)		
	Embarked	Dis-embarked	Transit	Embarked	Dis-embarked	Transit	Embarked	Dis-embarked	Transit
Sibu	811	978	—	6,365	2,894	—	8,792	6,390	—
Lutong	1,172	972	62	2,303	6,192	—	3,521	3,924	—
Bintulu	583	495	1,213	2,080	2,447	6,232	1,168	1,690	12,400

## APPENDIX F

## CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY, 1957

LATITUDE: 1° 29' N  
LONGITUDE: 110° 20' E

HEIGHT OF STATION 85 FEET A.M.S.L.

STATION: KUCHING

1957

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	Means or Extremes
Mean 0800 hours: Air pressure at M.S.L. (mbs) Air Temperature in Degrees F Means of—	1010.9	1011.6	1011.4	1011.0	1010.6	1010.5	1010.2	1010.4	1011.4	1012.1	1012.5	1010.4	—	1011.1
“A,” Maximum	83.6	84.9	86.4	88.5	88.9	89.9	89.7	89.5	89.1	87.9	87.8	87.5	1053.7	87.8
“B,” Minimum	71.9	71.3	72.8	72.3	72.6	73.5	72.7	71.9	72.0	72.0	71.9	72.7	867.6	72.3
Mean of “A,” & “B”	77.7	78.1	79.6	80.4	80.7	81.7	81.2	80.7	80.5	79.9	79.9	80.1	960.5	80.0
Absolute extremes:														
Highest maximum	88.1	90.0	90.2	91.9	92.3	93.5	95.1	93.3	94.1	92.3	91.7	91.3	—	95.1
Date	10	6	25	19	12 & 14	13	70.2	69.2	6	6	13	1	—	4th July
Lowest minimum	65.2	68.2	71.1	69.0	70.2	70.7	72.2	69.2	69.0	69.8	68.7	66.9	—	65.2
Date	5	25	22	2	21	28	7	8	15	6	18	4	—	5th Jan.
Lowest maximum	77.2	74.0	79.2	84.2	80.7	77.7	77.2	84.2	82.2	81.8	81.8	78.2	—	74.0
Date	24	17	28	8 & 16	15	2	30	22	24	18	3	3	—	17th Feb.
Highest minimum	74.0	73.9	74.8	75.2	74.4	77.3	75.1	74.5	74.9	74.4	74.3	74.8	—	77.3
Date	SEV	28	24	16	25	14	6	30	3	23	7 & 9	17 & 19	—	14th June
Rainfall:														
Total inches	18.66	17.64	10.28	11.01	9.72	6.17	9.03	7.86	13.89	17.65	13.82	16.26	151.99	—
Most in a day—														
Amount (inches)	4.33	8.19	2.31	1.85	1.78	1.32	2.84	1.35	2.88	3.27	1.75	2.07	—	8.19
Date	22	16	13	24	27	22	29	25	11	13	14	8	—	16th Feb.
Number of days:														
Precipitation	20	20	21	18	20	18	16	17	21	22	21	25	239	—
Thunderstorm	2	6	5	11	11	11	9	10	13	9	9	12	108	—
Thunder heard	3	8	11	20	20	17	13	17	20	21	16	18	184	—
Fog	—	1	5	8	10	6	6	4	3	2	4	8	57	—
Gale	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bright sunshine:														
Total hours	83.40	137.95	123.55	163.70	179.20	182.25	193.80	199.15	145.90	140.60	162.75	132.20	1844.45	153.70
Daily mean (hour)	2.69	4.93	3.99	5.46	5.78	6.07	6.25	6.42	4.86	4.53	5.43	4.26	606.7	5.05
Earth temperature:														
1 foot °F	80.7	81.5	82.7	83.7	84.4	85.1	85.3	84.1	84.0	83.6	83.1	83.6	1001.8	83.5
4 feet °F	82.1	82.7	83.0	84.0	84.6	85.2	85.5	84.8	84.8	84.4	83.9	84.1	1009.1	84.1



## APPENDIX F—(contd.)

## CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY, 1957

HEIGHT OF STATION 85 FEET A.M.S.L.

STATION: MIRI

LATITUDE: 4° 23' N  
LONGITUDE: 113° 59' E

1957

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	Means or Extremes
Mean 0800 hours: Air pressure at M.S.L. (mbs) Air Temperature in Degrees F	1010-8	1012-0	1011-5	1011-3	1010-8	1010-4	1010-1	1010-1	1011-4	1012-0	1012-5	1010-6	—	1,011-1
Means of—														
"A" Maximum	84-6	85-2	86-4	87-8	88-2	88-5	88-3	88-7	88-3	88-1	87-7	88-1	1,049-9	87-5
"B" Minimum	73-1	73-8	74-7	74-9	75-6	75-1	74-7	75-1	74-1	74-3	74-5	75-2	895-1	74-6
Mean of "A" & "B"	78-9	79-5	80-5	81-3	81-9	81-8	81-5	81-9	81-2	81-2	81-1	81-7	972-5	81-0
Absolute extremes:														
Highest maximum	89-6	88-0	89-9	90-2	92-1	91-2	92-8	92-8	90-8	91-2	91-0	91-9	—	92-8
Date	13	27	25	13	14	14	17	22	18-2	13	24	10	—	17 & 22
Lowest minimum	68-8	70-5	72-2	70-6	70-8	72-2	71-9	71-0	71-8	72-1	71-1	73-4	—	68-8
Date	3	24	21	15	17	10	26	12	20	21	24	26	—	3
Lowest maximum	79-6	82-2	82-4	85-9	85-2	82-2	81-2	84-5	81-0	82-6	81-2	82-5	—	81-0
Date	22	7	29	25	19	22	31	1	13	3	16	28	—	13
Highest minimum	75-3	76-8	76-6	77-2	77-5	77-5	77-8	77-8	76-9	76-8	76-6	78-0	—	78-0
Date	14	17	28	18	21	16	6	SEV	3	13	5	23	—	23
Rainfall:														
Total inches	20-13	2-93	4-52	1-69	12-24	14-54	9-82	4-37	12-03	9-48	8-73	10-53	111-01	281-0
Most in a day—														
Amount (inches)	5-76	1-18	1-35	0-46	3-03	4-73	2-84	1-51	2-75	1-67	2-90	2-29	—	5-76
Date	24	2	28	24	31	21	31	6	12	13 & 15	6	15	—	24
Number of days:														
Precipitation	19	11	19	8	19	12	19	11	23	18	18	21	198	—
Thunderstorm	3	1	5	5	10	4	3	4	6	6	6	9	58	—
Thunder heard	8	5	11	11	20	11	10	5	13	11	7	16	128	—
Fog	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	9	—
Gale	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Bright sunshine:														
Total hours	174-65	187-40	201-45	252-70	222-20	207-25	207-50	230-40	158-00	221-25	209-90	213-40	2,486-10	207-17
Daily mean (hour)	5-63	6-69	6-50	8-42	7-17	6-91	6-69	7-43	5-27	7-14	7-00	6-88	81-73	6-81
Earth temperature:														
1 foot °F	81-0	82-1	84-3	85-4	85-6	84-2	84-0	85-2	84-4	83-8	83-5	83-6	1,007-1	83-9
4 feet °F	82-2	82-5	84-2	85-3	86-0	85-5	85-4	85-3	85-6	85-4	85-1	85-1	1,017-6	84-8

## APPENDIX F—(contd.)

CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY, 1957

STATION: BINTULU

HEIGHT OF STATION 85 FEET A.M.S.L.

LATITUDE: 3° 11' N  
LONGITUDE: 113° 02' E

1957

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	Means or Extremes
Mean 0800 hours: Air pressure at M.S.L. (mbs) Air Temperature in Degrees F Means of—	1011.1	1011.9	1011.9	1011.4	1010.9	1010.5	1010.2	1010.2	1011.5	1012.0	1012.6	1010.9	12135.1	1011.3
“A” Maximum	84.8	84.6	86.7	87.6	87.9	89.3	89.1	89.5	87.7	88.2	86.6	87.1	1049.1	87.4
“B” Minimum	72.5	71.6	73.4	73.8	74.3	73.6	73.1	72.9	73.1	73.0	73.4	74.2	878.9	73.2
Mean of “A” & “B”	78.7	78.1	80.1	80.7	81.1	81.5	81.1	81.2	80.4	80.6	80.0	80.7	964.2	80.3
Absolute extremes:														
Highest maximum	88.4	87.7	88.9	90.1	91.7	93.3	92.9	94.6	91.1	92.2	88.9	90.7	—	94.6
Date	14	6	15	7	14	15	14	19	18	25	8 & 24	2	—	—
Lowest minimum	67.8	67.6	70.9	71.0	72.2	70.3	71.3	71.6	70.6	70.1	72.0	72.9	—	67.6
Date	4	24 & 25	15	4 & 5	26	30	28	9 & 27	20	6	25	30	—	—
Lowest maximum	80.8	79.2	82.2	83.8	83.1	84.2	80.9	82.8	80.9	84.9	83.1	83.6	—	79.2
Date	25	17	20	25	23	21	30	26	26	3	1 & 9	13	—	—
Highest minimum	74.8	74.3	75.6	76.8	76.2	75.3	76.2	75.0	75.3	74.8	75.0	76.2	—	76.9
Date	11 & 12	20	6	23	26	13	20	19	3	9	4 & 28	17	—	—
Rainfall:														
Total inches	12.39	14.87	9.00	6.39	10.27	12.01	15.05	6.42	7.99	8.68	9.93	20.17	133.22	—
Most in a day—														
Amount (inches)	2.15	5.60	2.63	1.18	2.41	3.35	4.04	1.56	1.67	1.10	2.22	2.84	—	5.60
Date	26	9	14	24	27	3	31	21	19	19	8	2	—	—
Number of days:														
Precipitation	23	16	16	14	21	14	15	13	16	19	19	25	211	—
Thunderstorm	1	5	7	3	10	3	3	4	9	5	1	4	58	—
Thunder heard	6	7	14	10	19	9	9	12	14	10	5	9	124	—
Fog	6	14	6	8	9	3	3	5	—	6	7	4	71	—
Gale	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bright sunshine:														
Total hours	155.45	168.70	184.90	216.70	167.55	181.10	195.15	216.35	149.50	187.30	179.10	186.00	2187.80	182.32
Daily mean (hour)	5.01	6.03	5.96	7.22	5.40	6.04	6.29	6.98	4.98	6.04	5.97	6.00	71.92	5.99
Earth temperature:														
1 foot °F	82.6	82.2	84.7	85.6	85.5	84.7	85.5	84.1	84.2	83.9	83.7	83.8	1010.5	84.2
4 feet °F	83.1	82.8	84.3	85.4	85.9	85.3	85.9	85.3	85.7	85.3	85.0	85.1	1019.1	84.9

## APPENDIX G

## GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Sir Anthony Foster Abell, K.C.M.G.

## MEMBERS OF SUPREME COUNCIL AT THE END OF 1957

The Hon. the Chief Secretary (Mr. J. H. Ellis, C.M.G.)

- „ the Financial Secretary (Mr. J. C. H. Barcroft, C.M.G.)
- „ the Attorney-General (Mr. G. E. Strickland, Q.C.)
- „ Abang Haji Mustapha bin Abang Haji Moasli, C.B.E.  
(Datu Bandar)
- „ Abang Haji Abdul Razak
- „ Mr. Bangau anak Renang
- „ Mr. F. B. K. Drake, M.B.E.
- „ Mr. Khoo Peng Loong
- „ Mr. Ong Kee Hui
- „ Mr. William Tan Ho Choon

## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NEGRI AT THE END OF 1957

*President:*

The Hon. the Chief Secretary (Mr. J. H. Ellis, C.M.G.)

*Ex-officio Members:*

The Hon. the Financial Secretary (Mr. J. C. H. Barcroft, C.M.G.)

- „ the Acting Attorney-General (Mr. G. V. C. Young)
- „ the Acting Resident, First Division (Mr. A. J. N. Richards)
- „ the Resident, Second Division (Mr. A. F. R. Griffin)
- „ the Resident, Third Division (Mr. D. C. White,  
O.B.E., O.S.S.)
- „ the Resident, Fourth Division (Mr. J. C. B. Fisher,  
O.B.E.)
- „ the Resident, Fifth Division (Mr. H. P. K. Jacks)
- „ the Director of Education (Mr. M. G. Dickson)
- „ the Director of Public Works (Mr. H. S. Roe)
- „ the Director of Agriculture (Mr. J. Cook)
- „ the Director of Medical Services (Dr. W. Glyn-Evans)
- „ the Secretary for Local Government (Mr. G. A. T. Shaw)
- „ the Development Secretary (Mr. B. A. Hepburn)

*Elected Members:*

- The Hon. Abang Haji Abdul Razak
- „ Mr. Bangau anak Renang
  - „ Mr. Chan Yong Khow
  - „ Mr. Chang Ta Kang
  - „ Mr. Chia Chin Shin
  - „ Orang Kaya Pemancha Dukau
  - „ Inche Habibullah bin Majid
  - „ Haji Ibrahim bin Mohamad
  - „ Temonggong Jugah anak Barieng
  - „ Mr. Khoo Peng Loong
  - „ Mr. Kueh Yong Kwang
  - „ Mr. Ling Beng Siew
  - „ Pengarah Montegrai anak Tugang
  - „ Tua Kampong Muip bin Tabib
  - „ Mr. Ong Guan Cheng
  - „ Mr. Ong Kee Hui
  - „ Temonggong Oyong Lawai Jau, M.B.E.
  - „ Haji Su'ut bin Tahir
  - „ Mr. Tiong Siew King
  - „ Mr. Umpi Rantai
  - „ Inche Yaman bin Padol
  - „ Mr. Yeo Cheng Hoe
  - „ Mr. Stephen Yong Kuet Tze
  - „ Datu Abang Haji Zin, M.B.E.

*Nominated Members:*

- The Hon. Abang Haji Mustapha bin Abang Haji Moasli, C.B.E.  
(Datu Bandar)
- „ Pengarah Banyang anak Janting
  - „ Mr. C. B. Horn
  - „ Mr. William Tan Ho Choon

*Standing Members:*

- The Hon. Datu Abang Openg
- „ Abang Mustapha, B.E.M.



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